



*Where Life is Sweet*

Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**STAFF REPORT**  
For the Meeting of July 25, 2022

**Title/Subject**

Decision related to EOTEC Field Development

**Summary and Background**

About four years ago, the City was approached by a group interested in assisting in the development of fields at the Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center (EOTEC). The Council was excited about the prospect then but asked the group to wait for the completion of the EOTEC Strategic Plan and the EOTEC Site Master Plan. Then the restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the facility and delayed further discussion even more.

This group (a coalition of lacrosse, soccer and football interests) reenergized their efforts earlier in 2022. The group presented their plan to raise funding to develop the front 20 acres (bordering Airport Road) into athletic fields. Their full project includes lighting, irrigation and turf development with a total cost of more than \$2.5 million. There is an ability to scale the most expensive portion of the project (lighting) if fundraising is slower than expected.

The fundraising group presented to the EOTEC Advisory Committee earlier in July and the Committee voted to endorse the project.

**Tie-In to Council Goals**

Council goal #15 is to "Begin Implementation of EOTEC Strategic Plan".

The strategic plan priorities include #5-Add a multi-sports facility and #2-Improve the landscaping and overall beautification of the site.

**Fiscal Information**

The overall project is estimated to ~\$2 million. \$150,000 will be the City's portion in connecting the project to site infrastructure.

**Alternatives and Recommendation**

Alternatives

1. Motion to move forward with field development project as outlined.
2. Motion to modify and then move forward with field development project as modified.
3. Motion to direct staff and volunteers to make major changes to the project and return in the future.

Recommended Action/Motion

Motion to move forward with field development project as outlined.

**Submitted By:** Byron D. Smith