

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

**Approved by the  
Regents  
February 20, 2014**

Subject: Elmer D. Mitchell Field Improvements

Action

Requested: Approval to Proceed with Project

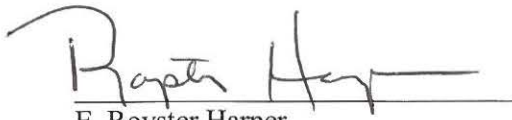
Background:

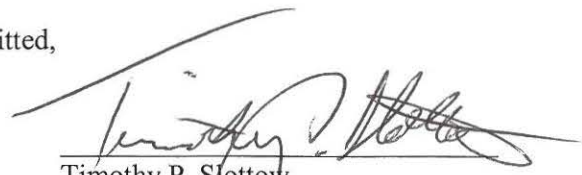
Elmer D. Mitchell Field on North Campus is a major hub for intramural and club sports for students, typically hosting up to 800 users each evening. Recreational Sports, a unit of Student Life, has been working with student representatives to understand their preferences for updated recreational sports facilities at Mitchell Field. Student Life now proposes improvements to Mitchell Field (as shown on the attached graphic) to increase usage flexibility of the fields for various intramural and club sports, increase capacity, and extend the operating hours and operating season for Mitchell. Four softball fields will be repurposed into four artificial-turf soccer/multi-purpose intramural sports fields that will allow for much longer hours of operation and spring use because artificial turf will be well drained and not subject to closure due to rain and muddy conditions that can destroy natural turf. The fields will be enclosed with fencing to control access, protect turf, and to keep balls contained. Lighting will be installed with shields to keep light on the field with minimal spill-over onto adjacent non-university property or into the night sky. Existing multi-purpose fields will be improved for use for intramural sports team practices as well as games for sports that prefer natural turf (e.g., rugby). The existing lighting for these east fields will be upgraded with more energy-efficient fixtures that will also be shielded to prevent light spill-over. The two existing softball fields on the west side of Mitchell Field will remain. Other site work will include drainage improvements, on-site storm water management, and underground utilities. The existing Mitchell Field Building will be renovated for use as storage and a 3,200-square-foot building will be constructed to improve bathroom facilities and to provide for on-site maintenance, storage, and operational support. There will be no impact on parking from this project.

The estimated cost of the project is \$8,000,000. Funding will be provided from investment proceeds. The construction cash flow may be provided, all or in part, by bond proceeds or increasing the commercial paper issuance under the commercial paper program, secured by a pledge of General Revenues, and authorized by the Board of Regents. The architectural firm of SmithGroupJJR will design the project. The project is expected to provide an average of 30 on-site construction jobs. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2014.

We recommend that the Board of Regents approve the Elmer D. Mitchell Field Improvements project as described, and authorize issuing the project for bids and awarding construction contracts providing that bids are within the approved budget.



Respectfully submitted,

  
E. Royster Harper  
Vice President for Student Life

  
Timothy P. Slottow  
Executive Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer

February 2014  
Attachment

# University of Michigan Elmer D. Mitchell Field Improvements

-  U-M building
-  U-M property

University Planner's Office  
U-M AEC | 2.7.14

