



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: Parks and Recreation

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 17, 2017

Re: Public Hearing - Sports Field Lighting Project at Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area

## Executive Summary

This is a public hearing for the Sports Field Lighting Project at Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area (Cosmo Park). The proposed improvements include the installation of LED sports field lighting on football field #4 and soccer field #3 in Cosmo Park. Total project budget is \$250,420 and includes \$200,000 in Parks Sales Tax funds, \$30,420 in revenue from a temporary cellular phone tower, and a \$20,000 U.S. Soccer Foundation "Safe Places to Play" field enhancement grant. The U.S. Soccer Foundation grant will be applied as an in-kind credit on the sports lighting purchase, thus reducing the total cost to the City to \$230,420. Staff is recommending LED lights, as in addition to a 50% reduction in utility costs, LED lights provide a higher quality light and significantly lower maintenance costs compared to older lighting systems. Appropriation and approval of the grant will be handled through separate legislation. The lighting materials will be purchased through the City's Purchasing Department utilizing a cooperative contract for Musco Lighting products, and installation of the lighting will be completed by park staff. The lighting improvements at Cosmo Park are scheduled to begin this summer, with an anticipated completion date of fall 2017.

## Discussion

Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area (Cosmo Park), located at 1615 Business Loop 70 West, encompasses 533 acres and includes 39 athletic fields among the amenities offered within the park. The athletic fields are utilized for baseball, softball, soccer, lacrosse, football and ultimate frisbee games. The fields are active from March until November each season and are rented by user groups, schools, and individuals. Cosmo Park currently has two lighted football fields and two lighted soccer fields for use by park patrons.

Park staff is proposing to add LED sports field lighting on football field #4 and soccer field #3 with the Musco Control-Link System at Cosmo Park. The two fields currently do not have any type of outdoor lighting for use during evening hours.

During the public input process for the *2013 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan*, park staff discussed potential park improvements with a variety of groups that utilize different park facilities and amenities. Staff met with board members from the Columbia Youth Football League (CYFL) and Sporting Columbia to discuss future needs for their programs. Each group prioritized sports field lighting as one of the highest needs for their programs to expand their program hours and field usage. The information provided by the groups was included in the master plan, and sports field lighting at Cosmo Park was included as a project in the 2015 Park Sales Tax ballot based on the input from members of the two groups. Park staff held an interested parties meeting at Cosmo Park on June 19, 2017. Park staff was



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available to meet with citizens to discuss the proposed plans and gain feedback about the addition of new lights on the two sports fields. Park staff also discussed the project with the Parks & Recreation Commission at their June 15, 2017 meeting. After considering all citizen and Commission comments, staff believes that the proposed installation of new lighting at Cosmo Park represents a consensus of park users and staff.

The proposed improvements at Cosmo Park include the installation of Musco LED sports field lighting on football field #4 and soccer field #3. This will be the first installation of LED sports field lighting in the park system. The LED sports field lighting is part of the Musco green lighting system. The technology associated with the lighting system provides multiple benefits over other lighting competitors. The light spill from each lighting fixture is reduced by 50% through photometric improvements to the luminaires. The reduction in light spill assists with the overall elimination of light pollution from the athletic field complex. The MUSCO system will also provide the Parks and Recreation Department with a "Constant 25" guarantee. The warranty program provides product assurance and warranty for 25 years and includes constant monitoring of the lighting system by MUSCO technicians. The monitoring of the system is completed using Control Link technology. Control Link allows park staff to program the usage of the lights through a computer or smart phone and assures the Department that the lights are being used correctly. This allows staff to monitor energy use and maximize the efficiency of the lighting system. The overall cost savings from LED lighting technology through MUSCO has shown to reduce utility costs by 50% or more over older lighting systems.

In order to offset the additional cost of the LED sports field lighting materials, park staff applied for and was awarded a "Safe Places to Play" field enhancement grant by the U.S. Soccer Foundation. The grant will provide the department with a \$20,000 Musco Lighting product/services credit that will be applied to the purchase of the lighting materials for soccer field #3.

Park staff is also appropriating \$30,420 in revenue (by separate legislation) generated from a temporary cellular phone tower that was placed at the Parks Management Center from June 2013 to October 2014. On June 3, 2013, the City Council approved a license agreement with St. Charles Tower (SCT), Inc. to place a mobile 120' cellular tower at the Parks Management Center and, in return, the City would be paid a monthly fee for the use of the space. Discussion among City staff included using the revenue generated by the mobile cellular tower for youth sports in Cosmo Park. The additional funds will assist in covering the costs associated with the installation of the lights by park staff.

The lighting improvements at Cosmo Park are included in the City's FY-17 Capital Improvement Program budget, with installation beginning this summer. Staff anticipates completing the installation of the lights by early fall 2017. The total project budget is \$250,420 and is funded by the 2015 Park Sales Tax, revenue from the mobile cellular tower, and \$20,000 in grant funding from the U.S. Soccer Foundation. The \$20,000 in grant funding from the U.S. Soccer Foundation will be applied to the cost of the Musco Lighting materials before final purchase by the City, reducing the total cost to the City to \$230,420. The lighting materials will be purchased through the City's Purchasing Department utilizing a



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cooperative contract for Musco Lighting products and installation of the lighting will be completed by park staff and other City staff. Staff will work closely with the Water and Light Department for the drilling of the holes for the pole bases and appreciates their assistance with this project.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total project cost is \$250,420 and is funded by the 2015 Park Sales Tax, revenues generated from the placement of a temporary cellular tower, and grant funding from the U.S. Soccer Foundation. Based on estimated use, staff anticipates that the utility bills will increase by approximately \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year, but these will be offset somewhat by the additional revenue recovered from groups renting the fields and from activity and user fees generated by the cosponsored programs. The use of LED lighting will also reduce the cost of operation for the two fields compared to other metal halide sports field lighting utilized in the park system.

Long-Term Impact: Based on estimated use, staff anticipates that the utility bills for the two sports fields will increase by approximately \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year.

## Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

### Vision Impacts:

Primary Impact: Parks, Recreation & Greenways, Secondary Impact: Economic Development, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Operational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Mobility, Connectivity, and Accessibility, Secondary Impact: Economic Development, Tertiary Impact: Inter-Governmental Cooperation

## Legislative History

Date	Action
08/04/2014	B225-14, Authorizing an extension of the license agreement with St. Charles Tower, Inc. for a Cell on Wheels (COW) to be located on Parks Management Center. <a href="http://www.como.gov/Council/Commissions/downloadfile.php?id=14522">http://www.como.gov/Council/Commissions/downloadfile.php?id=14522</a>



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06/03/2013	B150-13, Authorizing a license agreement with St. Charles Tower, Inc. for a Cell on Wheels (COW) to be located on Parks Management Center. <a href="http://www.como.gov/ParksandRec/Council_Agenda_Items/documents/council_2013_05-20_celltower.pdf">http://www.como.gov/ParksandRec/Council_Agenda_Items/documents/council_2013_05-20_celltower.pdf</a>
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## Suggested Council Action

After the public hearing, approve the ordinance authorizing the Sports Field Lighting Project at Columbia Cosmopolitan Recreation Area.