Project Report

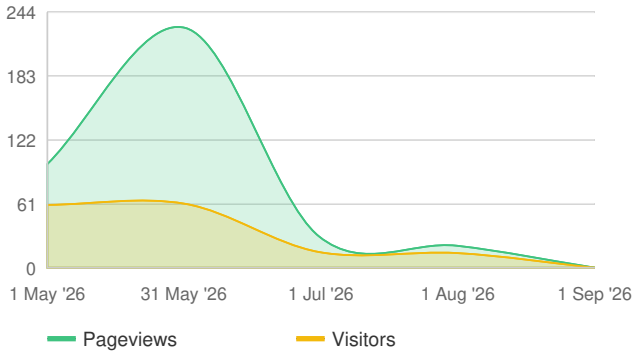
22 February 2022 - 07 September 2026

City of Columbia, MO

Rainbow Softball Center lighting improvements

GRANICUS

Visitors Summary



Highlights

TOTAL VISITS	MAX VISITORS PER DAY	NEW REGISTRATIONS
165	49	0

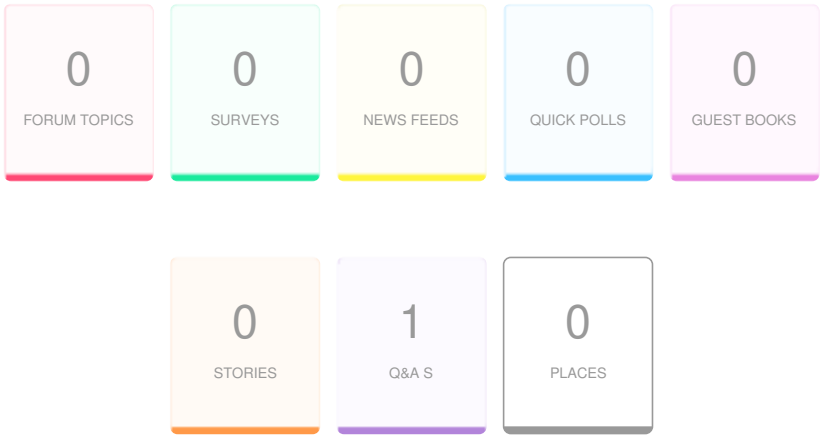
ENGAGED VISITORS	INFORMED VISITORS	AWARE VISITORS
8	47	139

Aware Participants	139
Aware Actions Performed	Participants
Visited a Project or Tool Page	139

Informed Participants	47
Informed Actions Performed	Participants
Viewed a video	0
Viewed a photo	0
Downloaded a document	9
Visited the Key Dates page	9
Visited an FAQ list Page	0
Visited Instagram Page	0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	31
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	8

Engaged Participants	8		
Engaged Actions Performed	Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Contributed on Forums	0	0	0
Participated in Surveys	0	0	0
Contributed to Newsfeeds	0	0	0
Participated in Quick Polls	0	0	0
Posted on Guestbooks	0	0	0
Contributed to Stories	0	0	0
Asked Questions	0	0	0
Placed Pins on Places	0	0	0
Contributed to Ideas	2	6	0

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Qanda	Questions	Archived	10	0	0	0
Ideas	Comments	Archived	34	2	6	0

INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY

1	0	0	0	0
DOCUMENTS	PHOTOS	VIDEOS	FAQS	KEY DATES

Widget Type	Engagement Tool Name	Visitors	Views/Downloads
Document	Proposed Plan Rainbow Softball Center.pdf	9	13
Key Dates	Key Date	9	9

IDEAS

Comments

Visitors 34	Contributors 8	CONTRIBUTIONS 10

02 June 26
twheitmann
VOTES 0

Rainbow improvements needed

I've played on the rainbow fields for years. They've noticeably degraded and improvements are needed. I support the lighting improvements. This should improve playing conditions for late games and even safety to certain extent. I can't make the meeting but would like to kno w more about the concrete backstops. Some of the improvements for the future (batting cag es, concessions, playground) might have move impact and I would like to see these prioritiz ed.

31 May 26
Jate Miller
VOTES 0

Im glad to see the city is finally doing something about this.

01 June 26
wadoss1989
VOTES 0

Much needed updates to draw crowds back in!!

Hello to the Columbia parks and Rec Board,
I definitely would not be able to make the meeting for the comments and suggestions, but gl ad that you guys have opened it up for others to make comments as well on here. For some one that played many many years at the rainbow complex other than the list of future renov ations, you guys have planned field maintenance should be at the top.By maintenance, I me an the field conditions to be assessed and possibly redone as most of the Fields batter boxe s have continuous no matter how little or how much play is done on the for the right . all the pitching mounds stick up an inch to 2 inches which makes it dangerous to feel the ball that may come back up the because you won't know where it's gonna go. Along with that makin g sure that all of the holes for bases are the correct and that they're stable over the years ca n't tell you how many times someone slid in a basis turned or anything like that.Another extr emely vital aspect to the rainbow complex will have to be something with the shade. Shade trees are nice some of them take forever to grow. What would be nice is maybe another larg e canopy area maybe outside the concession area

IDEAS

Comments

01 June 26
Jodi Himmelberg
VOTES 0

Update the playground area and equipment and add b ack the batting cages.

Kids use to love coming there, there was something for them to do but then park maintenan ce didn't keep it up and kids were getting stung on the play ground.

02 June 26
Kevin M
VOTES 0

Just add turf please! Would bring in so many people to play, and the fields are awful to play on.

Turf please

02 June 26
No Static Softball

Please bring the batting cages back ASAP. Also, can w e get the light poles repainted? I'm unsure about the ne

VOTES
0

ed for backstops in phase 1.

02 June 26

No Static Softball

VOTES
0

30 years playing there. We need Turf, Bathroom Upgra des, Repainted light poles, Batting Cages, and Conces sion Upgrades.

Adult softball leagues also need to do a better job of separating competitive teams vs. casu al teams. I remember when the fields were completely full every night, but then the super c ompetitive teams started using the casual leagues as batting practice, and the extreme blo wouts caused a lot of teams to stop playing. Let's identify those teams, and work to give the m their own league apart from the rest. It could help grow the game.

02 June 26

Mludden89

VOTES
0

Instead of concrete backstops, I'd rather the money go towards infield improvements. "Rainbow hops" are a m ajor safety and gameplay issue.

IDEAS

Comments

16 June 26

MidMO Sierra Club

VOTES
0

The installation of LED lights should follow the "5 Dark Sky principles for Outdoor Lighting : Useful, Targeted, Low, Controlled, Warm-color

"https://darksky.org/resources/guides-and-how-tos/lighting-principles/Field lighting should b e focused down on the playing field to minimize light trespass and sky glow. For aerial sport s, like softball, a maximum of 8% of the total lumens can be aimed upwards. These lights sh ould be able to be switched off if the field is used for a non-aerial purpose (i.e. soccer). Thou gh a maximum of 3000K is recommended in general for outdoor lighting, sports fields can h ave a maximum of 5700K (further into the blue range) for ball visibility. (Blue light is more un healthy for humans and animals than redder light.)Ball fields should have a curfew of 11pm. Lights should automatically turn off then, or manually if use ends before 11pm. They should have the ability to be dimmed to 25%. and each field should have separate controls.We enc ourage Parks and Rec to pursue Dark Sky Certification for Outdoor Sports Lighting for this project.https://darksky.org/what-we-do/darksky-approved/outdoor-sports-lighting/guidelines/ The Cosmo Park stargazers and wildlife will approve.

16 June 26

MidMO Sierra Club

VOTES
0

Regarding the possible future use of synthetic turf on t he Rainbow playing fields:

Synthetic turf is a predominantly petrochemical product whose manufacture, use and dispo sal exposes communities, including vulnerable children, to toxic chemicals. Use of synthetic turf in place of natural green spaces negatively impacts human and environmental health. The Mid-Missouri group of the Sierra Club encourages natural turf whenever feasible, mana ged using Beyond Pesticides "Parks for a Sustainable Future" training and guidelines or sim ilar organic processes. If synthetic turf is installed, all chemicals used in the products shou ld be disclosed and nothing containing hazardous or toxic substances, including but not limi ted to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), should be purchased.

COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION
Public Comments for
Rainbow Softball Center Improvements
Meeting Held 10/5/2023

Please comment on what you like about the proposed potential improvements:

- I like all the proposed ideas but the safety of the players should be priority.
- I think the concessions can be updated; new wood paint, systems inside, refrigeration etc. etc. As far as the lounge area is fine, cleaning up old playground on North property, repainting the fields, changing the lights. Update what is existing would save more money and keep the integrity of Cosmo.
- The only thing I like about this proposed "improvement" is the relocation of the playground. Again, the only thing.
- I like the covered seating & batting cages.
- More playground.
- More shaded area! Updated facilities-bathroom more accessible. Batting cages.
- I like having batting cages back.
- Having the playground up shaded area for the kids.
- I like the upgrades to the bathroom area. The concession needs upgraded. I think the new batting cages are a must and are a great idea.
- I don't know what the Parks and Rec department's intentions are with this update besides push the people that play down here every day AWAY. The money that is being allocated for this project should be put toward the development and updates of the complex; grass, lights, overgrown trees, etc.!

What would you change about the proposed potential improvements? Please be concise:

- Bring the big plastic beer cups back.
- Turf in the batter's box @ least.
- Turf infields-Turf outfields- New lights-New paint; take the proposed potential money and UPDATE what is existing. Please have integrity for the people that play, pay and stay down here. Please call if you would like more feedback xxx-xxx-xxxx (phone number redacted).
- I wouldn't build a new concession stand or pavilion. I would put the money into turfing the infields. The current state of the infields is a danger to players. They are tough to maintain, turf has minimal maintenance. I would replace the lights and upgrade to LED. Cheaper and brighter but most importantly safer compared to the current lighting. I would put self-pitch batting cages between each field. I would upgrade the bathrooms but NOT the concession stand.

- Completely get rid of the purple field. Tore both my ACL's playing on purple field (right field, right center). Turf mats for the batters boxes.

- Batting cages at each field, turn the infield, better lights.

- Rather have a few sets of batting cages spread between the fields vs. at bottom of the hill. Playground replacement. Too close to foul balls and don't want to be wading through the kids to get to concessions/bathrooms. More shaded area needed, specifically coverage over bleachers. Outdoor TV's for advertising or photos of teams playing. Improved trash & recycling collection. Keep as much green space as possible, the park is beautiful. Field maintenance-Maybe ask for volunteers with potential to save on league fees.

- Make sure the batting cages are tall enough for an underhand pitch. Split the cages up between each field.

- Shaded playground. Possibly shaded dugouts? Screens from the direct sun-red field dugout is bad.

- With the upgrade to the concessions I do not believe there needs to be an overhanging lounge area. With the upgrade to the batting cages they need to be equipped with pitching machines. Instead of such a large concession area there needs to be upgrades to all the fields-new bases, turfing the infield would be great to bring in more teams and tournaments to bring up the revenue at the complex. The warning tracks need to be recut and cleaned. Dugouts need to be rebuilt as they are dilapidated and falling apart.

- Update what is necessary inside the concessions and put the extra money toward updating the fields. Please put more than 4 batting cages. There are more than 300 people here a night. Put money for training umpires. Please call for more input xxx-xxx-xxxx. Phone number redacted.

The above record(s) is subject to Missouri's open records laws and may be provided to the public if requested and/or placed in public domain.

Thank you for your participation.
City of Columbia, MO
Parks and Recreation