Athletic Field Study

City Council Update

May 2020

Sammamish
Parks and Recreation

Presentation Topics

- Overview
- Research
- Current Facilities
- Survey
- Recommendations
- Opportunities
- Priority Facilities
- Next Steps

Overview

Athletic Field Study Overview

The Athletic Field Study is intended to guide the prioritization of future sports field improvement projects that will **increase overall playing time** while **emphasizing cost saving measures**.

Athletic Field Study

4 Major Components

- Research national and local sports and population trends
- Analyze field usage within the City
- Survey leagues/organizations
- Evaluate capacity of existing facilities

Research

Research

Local and Regional Trends

- Quickly **growing population** (City and region)
- Sammamish residents are more likely to play organized sports
- Sammamish residents more likely to spend money on **children's recreation**
- Increasing number of children in Sammamish are participating in sports
  - Participation is driven by large, regional leagues/organizations
  - Many leagues are competitive, specialized, and serve **multiple cities**
  - Nationally, organized team sports participation is declining
- **Baseball and soccer** are the dominant sports
  - Non-traditional sports such as cricket, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee are becoming popular
- Little overall athletic play during the winter months
- National and regional initiatives to partner with school districts (joint use)

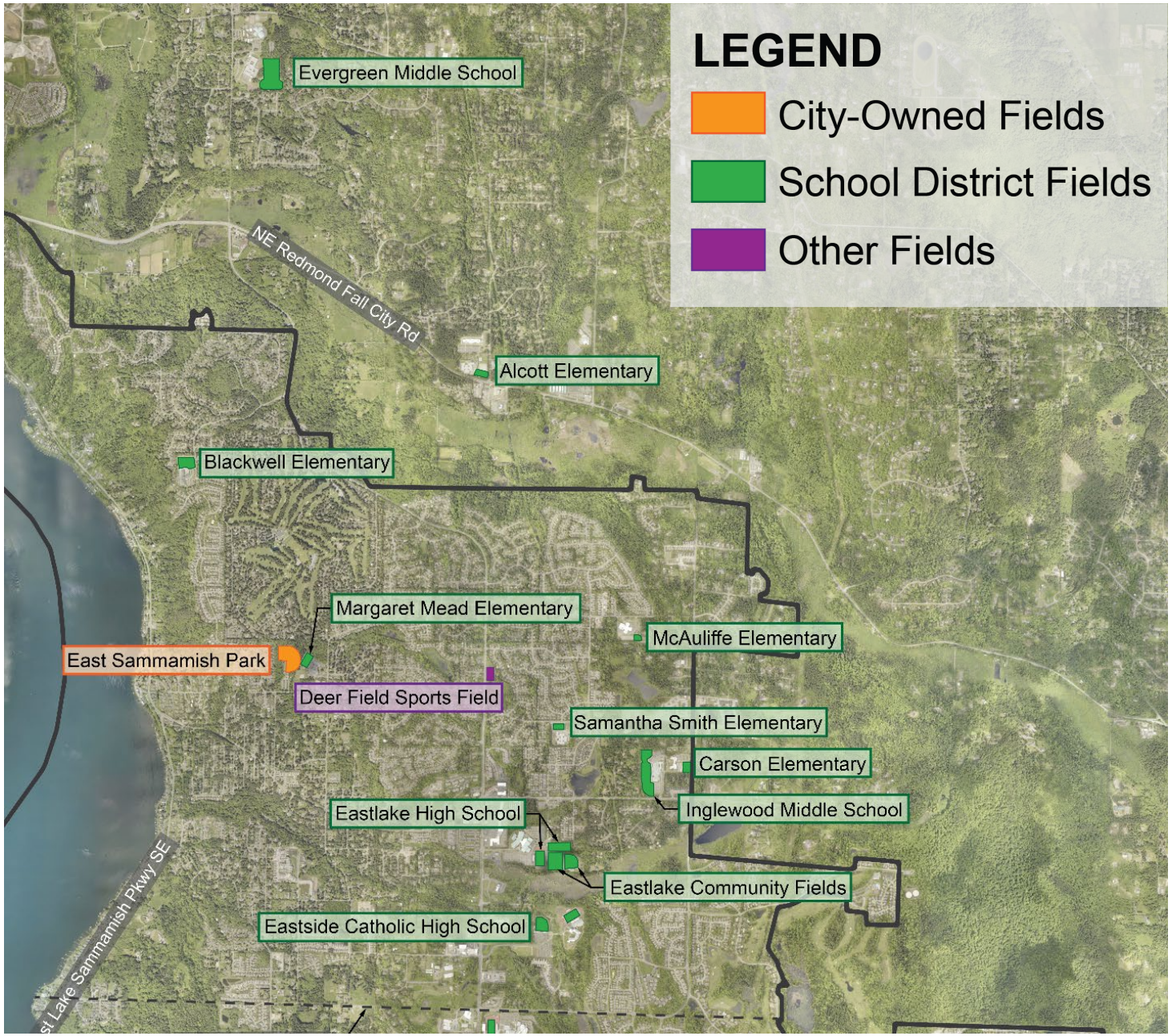
Current Facilities

Current Facilities

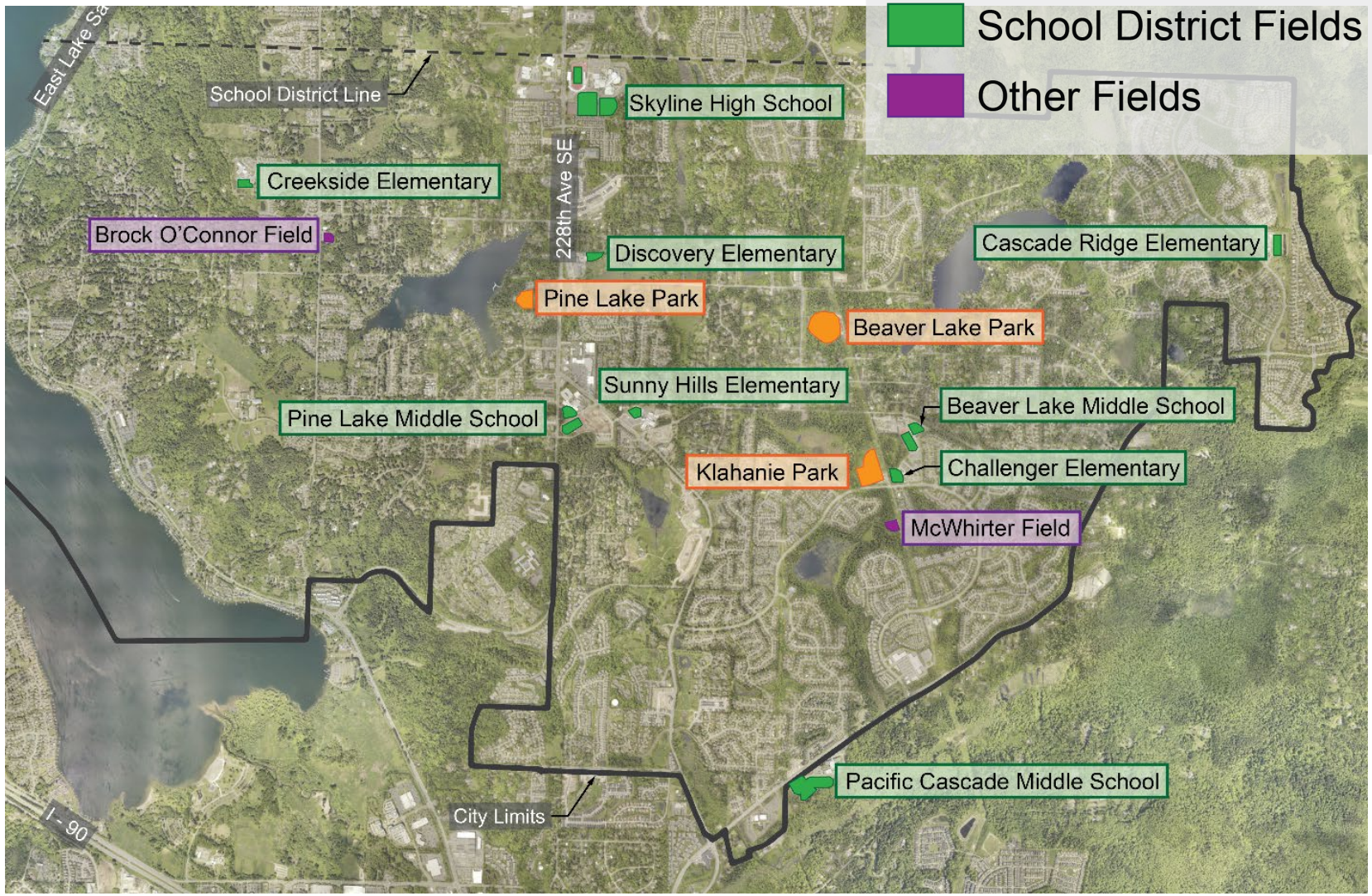
Assessed Inventory

- **13** fields owned and/or managed by **City**
  - Beaver Lake Park
  - East Sammamish Park
  - Klahanie Park
  - Pine Lake Park
  - Eastlake Community Fields (LWSD)
- **18** fields owned and managed by **Lake Washington School District**
  - City schedules 12 of these fields but does not maintain
- **16** fields owned and managed by **Issaquah School District**
- **3 private fields**

Current Facilities



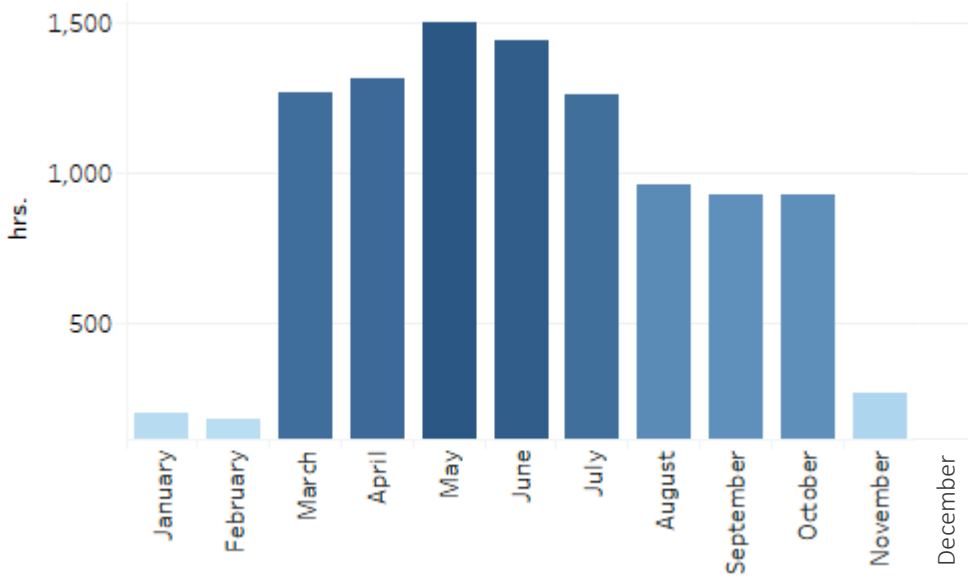
Current Facilities



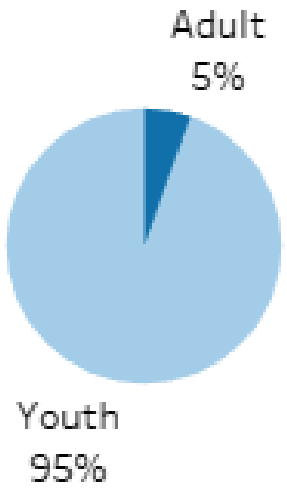
Current Facilities

City-Owned/Managed Fields (2019)

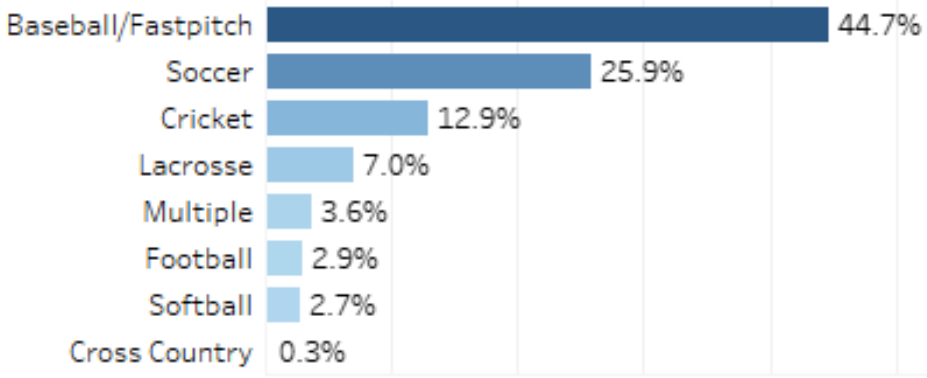
Are there seasonal trends?



What age are the athletes?



Which sports reserve the most hours?

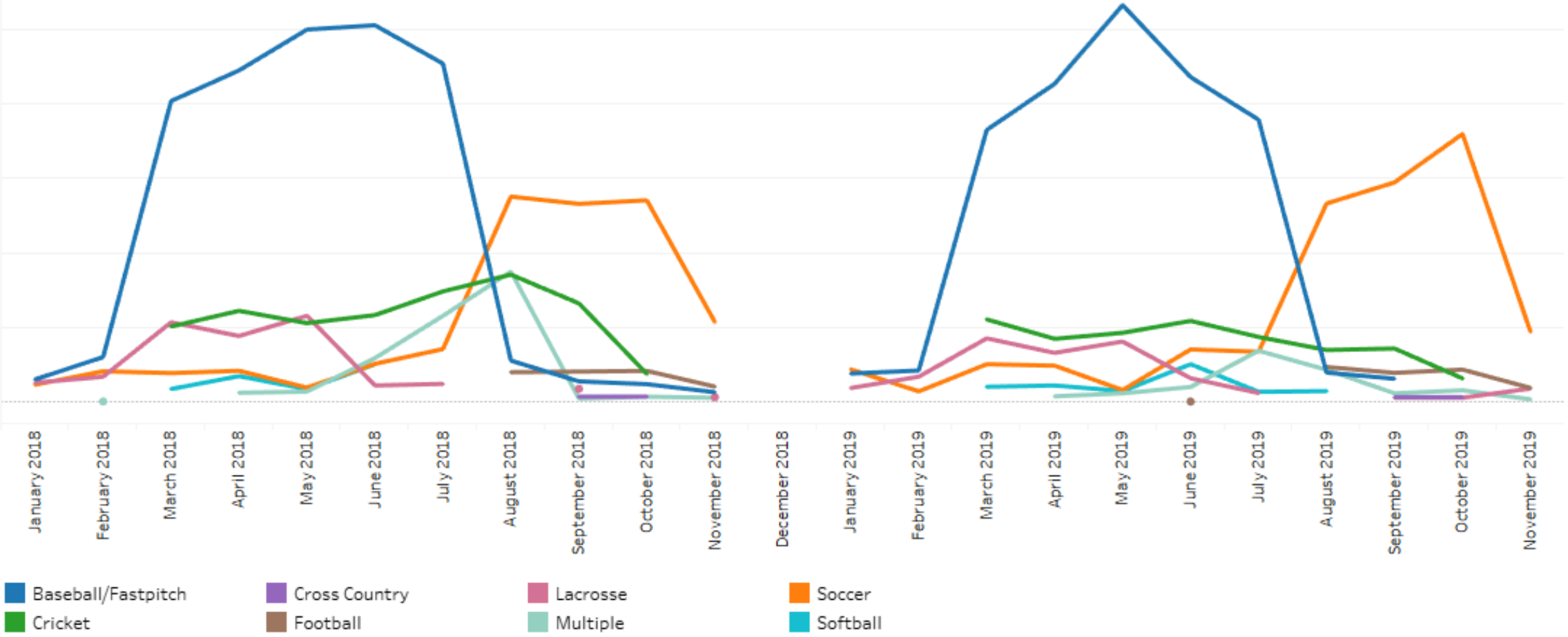


**20-30% of field time is scheduled on weekdays, 65-100% on weekends (depends on field)*

Current Facilities

City-Owned/Managed Fields

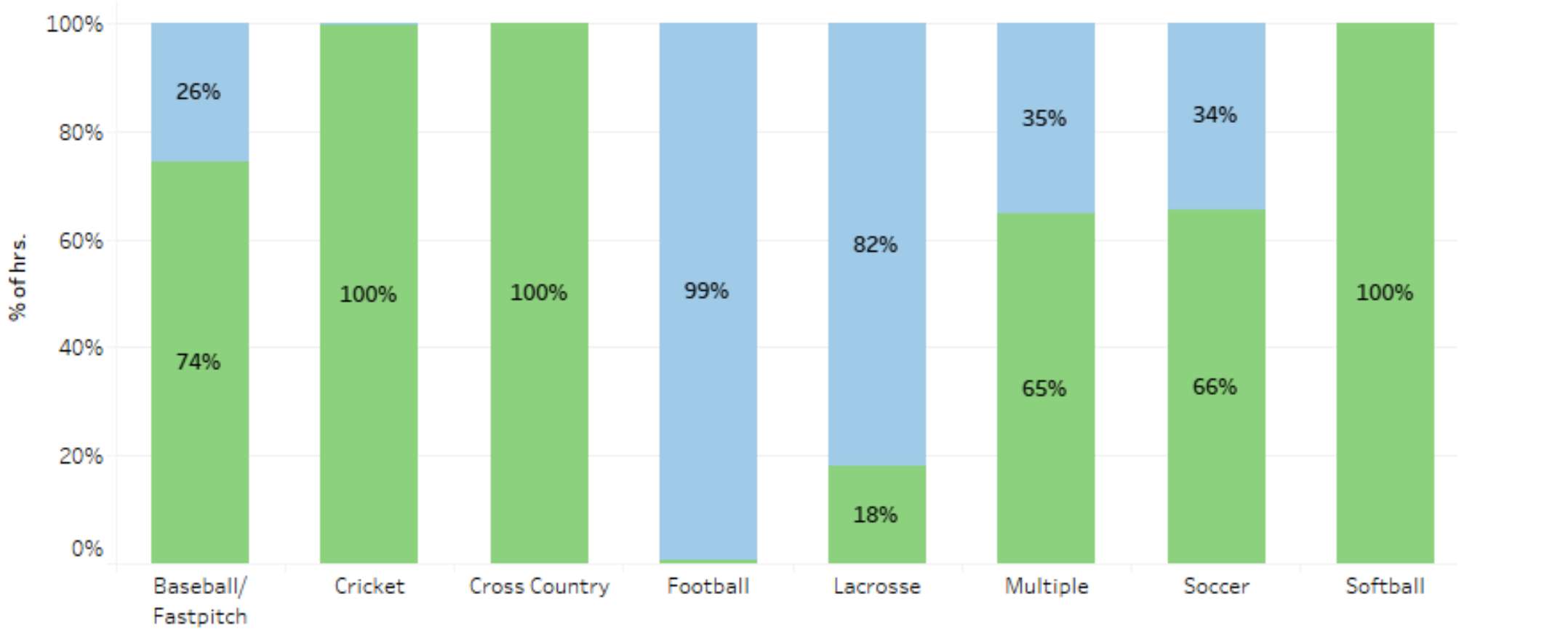
Are there seasonal trends by sport?



Current Facilities

City-Owned/Managed Fields (2019)

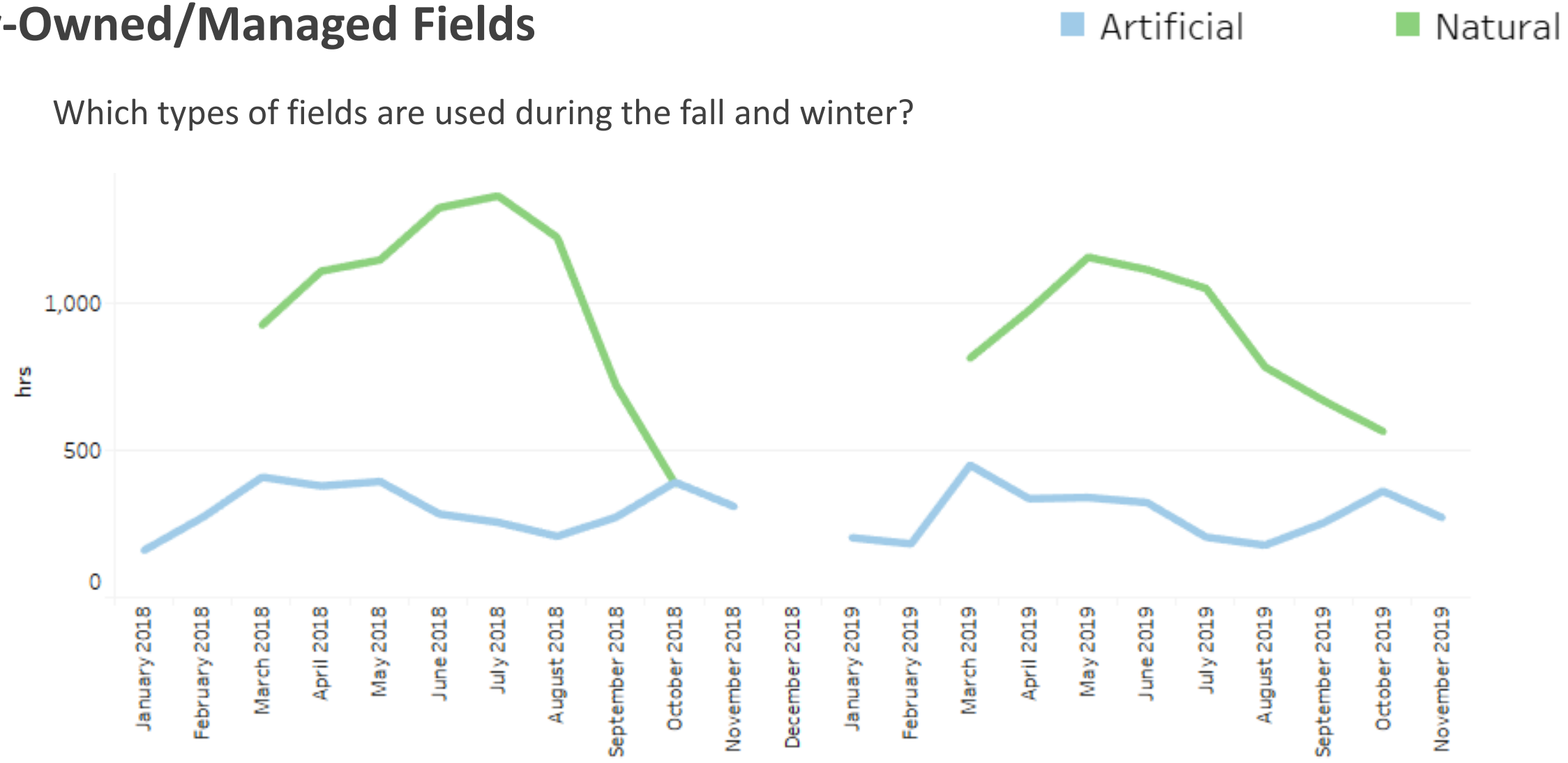
Do different sports use certain types of fields?



Current Facilities

City-Owned/Managed Fields

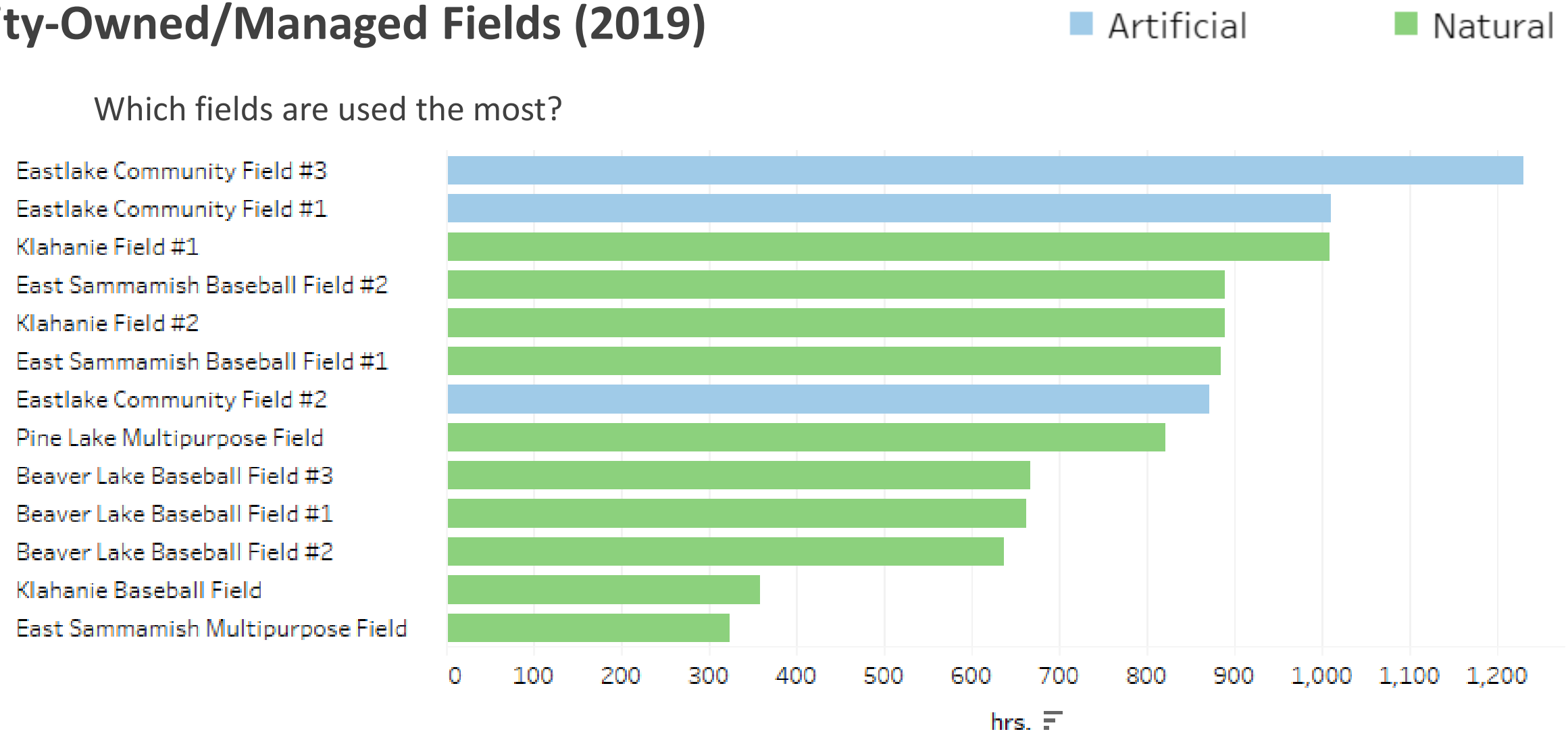
Which types of fields are used during the fall and winter?



Current Facilities

City-Owned/Managed Fields (2019)

Which fields are used the most?



Field Assessment

Heat Map

High Quality — Poor Quality

Surface Type	Complex	Field / Field Type	Ownership	culation	Control / encing	vice Life	eld/Grass: ce Quality	eld/Grass: tability	eld/Grass: ce Planarity	eld/Grass: rainage	eld/Grass: liability	d: Surface Quality	d: Stability	d: Surface anarity	d: Drainage	: Reliability
All-Weather Sand-Silt Field	Alcott Elementary	Field #2 Mulitpurpose Field	LWSD	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5					
	Blackwell Elementary	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	5					
	Carson Elementary	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	2	3	2	2	2	2	3	5					
	Cascade Ridge Elementary	Multipurpose Field	ISD	3	2	4	4	3	3	5	5					
	Creekside Elementary	Multipurpose Field	ISD	4	2	3	3	4	4	5	4					
	Discovery Elementary	Multipurpose Field	ISD	2	2	4	4	3	4	5	4					
	Margaret Mead Elementary	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	1	3	1	3	3	2	1	4					
	McAuliffe Elementary	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	5					
	Samantha Smith Elementary	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	4	3	2	3	3	2	2	4					
	Sunny Hills Elementary	Multipurpose Field	ISD	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	4					
Natural Grass Field	Deer Field Sports Field	Multipurpose Field	PRV	5	4	4	3	5	2	3	4					
	East Sammamish Park	Multipurpose Field	COS	3	4	3	3	2	3	2	2					
	Evergreen Middle School	Multipurpose Field	LWSD	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	4					
	Klahanie Park	Field #1 Multipurpose Field	COS	4	3	4	3	2	3	3	3					
		Field #2 Multipurpose Field	COS	4	3	4	3	2	3	3	3					
Natural Grass Outfield	Beaver Lake Park	Field #1 - Hybrid BB / SB	COS	2	4	2	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	1	4
		Field #2 - Hybrid BB / SB	COS	2	4	2	2	4	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	4
		Field #3 - Hybrid BB / SB	COS	2	4	2	4	4	2	5	4	2	2	2	1	4
	East Sammamish Park	Field #1 - Hybrid BB / SB	COS	3	4	3	3	1	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	5
		Field #2 - Hybrid BB / SB	COS	3	4	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	5
	Klahanie Park	Baseball Field	COS	4	3	3	2	3	1	1	2	5	5	3	5	5
	Pine Lake Park	Multipurpose Field	COS	1	4	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	3	5
Natural Grass Outfield / Skinned Infield	Beaver Lake Middle School	Fullsize Baseball Field	ISD	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	5	4	4	4	5
	Blackwell Elementary	Youth BB / SB Field	LWSD	5	3	4	5	5	5	3	5	5	4	4	4	5
	Challenger Elementary	Multipurpose Field	ISD	2	3	3	4	2	2	2	3	4	2	3	3	4
	Eastlake High School	Softball Field (Jr Varsity)	LWSD	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	4	4	3	4	5
	Evergreen Middle School	Full-Size Baseball Field	LWSD	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	4	5	3	4	4	5
		Youth BB / SB Field	LWSD	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	4	5	3	4	4	5
	Inglewood Middle School	Fullsize Baseball Field	LWSD	4	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	5	4	3	4	5
		Youth BB / SB Field	LWSD	4	3	3	3	2	2	2	3	4	4	3	3	5
	McAuliffe Elementary	Youth BB / SB Field	LWSD	4	4	4	3	2	3	3	3	5	4	4	4	5
	McWhirter Field	Baseball Field	PRV	5	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	5	5	4	4	4
	Pacific Cascade Middle School	Fullsize Baseball Field	ISD	4	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	3	4
		Youth SB / BB Field	ISD	4	2	2	3	4	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	4
	Pine Lake Middle School	Youth SB / BB Field	ISD	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	1	2	1	2	4
Natural Grass Track Infield	Inglewood Middle School	Football Field	LWSD	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3					
Natural Grass Outfield / Synthetic Infield	Brock O'Connor Field	Baseball Field	PRV	5	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
	Eastlake High School	Softball Field (Varsity)	LWSD	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Skyline High School	Field #3 - Fullsize BB Field	ISD	1	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1
Synthetic Turf Field	Beaver Lake Middle School	Multipurpose Field	ISD	2	1	2	4	2	2	1	1					
	Eastlake Community Fields	Field #1 Multipurpose Field	LWSD	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1					
		Field #2 Multipurpose Field	LWSD	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1					
		Field #3 Fullsize BB Field	LWSD	1	2	2	3	2	3	1	1					
	Pacific Cascade Middle School	Multipurpose Field	ISD	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	1					
Synthetic Turf Multipurpose Field	Pine Lake Middle School	Multipurpose Field	ISD	1	2	3	4	1	1	1	1					
	Skyline High School	Field #1 - Multipurpose	ISD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					
		Field #2 - Multipurpose	ISD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					
Synthetic Turf Track Infield	Eastlake High School	Football Field	LWSD	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1					
	Skyline High School	Football Field	ISD	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1					

Sand

Natural Turf

Synthetic Turf

Survey

Survey

What do leagues want and need?

- Survey open October – November (2019)
- 16 leagues (e.g. Eastlake Little League, Issaquah Soccer Club, Sammamish Cricket Club, Issaquah FC)
- Represented ~5,000 Sammamish residents/athletes
- Questions: demographics, league size, field surfaces/lights, needs, preferences, scheduling, satisfaction

Survey Representation		
Sport	**% of leagues (2019)**	**% of survey respondents**
Baseball/Fastpitch	40.5%	25%
Soccer	24.3%	25%
Lacrosse	18.9%	25%
Cricket	5.4%	6.3%
Softball	5.4%	6.3%
Football	2.7%	12.5%

Survey

Leagues: More fields, better quality, synthetic turf

- **63%** report registration numbers are increasing
- **82%** do not feel there are enough fields to meet current needs
- **76%** do not feel there are enough field to meet future needs
- **50%** feel the City's natural turf fields are in good condition
- **88%** feel the City's synthetic turf fields are in good condition
- **81%** prefer synthetic turf fields as a playing surface
- **88%** say field lights will provide more time for practices and games
- **69%** experience scheduling conflicts with other leagues/organizations
- **69%** need to schedule games/practices outside Sammamish

Recommendations

General Recommendations

2018 PRO Plan

- **Use existing sites** more effectively
- **Acquire and develop** additional field space to meet demands
- **Work with school districts** to explore opportunities for greater joint use and development of facilities
- Continue with the **multi-use** concept for field use
- Convert as many existing fields to **artificial turf** and **add lighting**
- Move away from block scheduling. Instead, schedule fields on a per use basis to maximize field utilization
- Pay attention to **emerging sports** such as cricket, lacrosse, rugby and others

Specific Recommendations

2018 PRO Plan

- Build 3 additional soccer fields
- Build 2 additional baseball fields
- Build 1 additional cricket field
- Consider a sports complex with:
  - 4 ball fields and/or
  - 4 soccer fields
- Add field lighting at:
  - Beaver Lake Park
  - Pine Lake Park
  - East Sammamish Park
  - Klahanie Park

City Staff Immediate Needs

- Build 2 additional baseball fields in northern half of City
- Build 2 multipurpose synthetic fields with lights
- Upgrade 5 ballfields to synthetic infield

Opportunities

Facility Upgrade Opportunities

Overview

- **Capacity Exercise**
  - "What fits"
  - *Not* a final design, simply an exercise to explore opportunities
- **Potential Hours Increase Estimate**
  - Low, Moderate, and High
- **Preliminary Cost Estimate**
  - Low, Moderate, and High

City-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

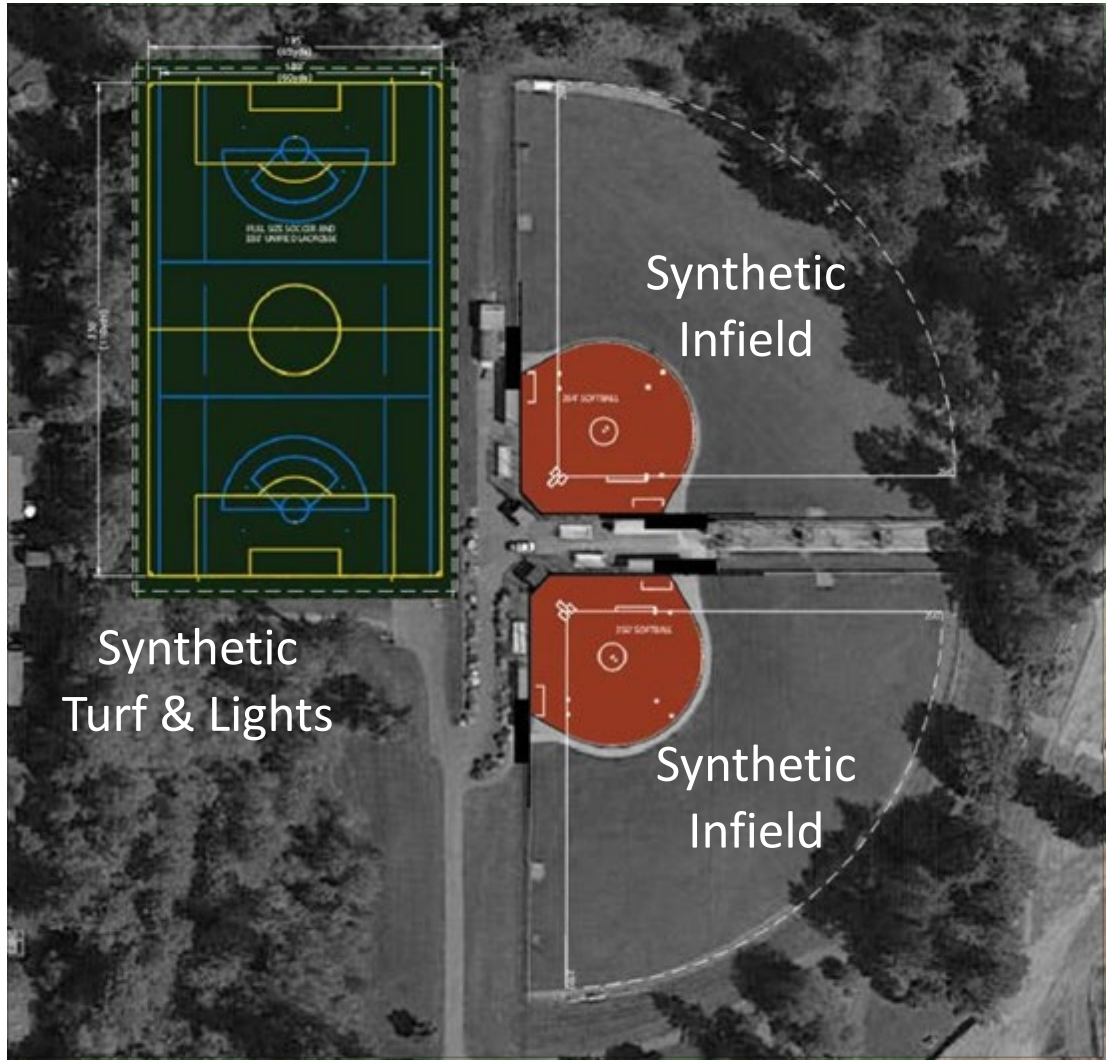
East Sammamish Park

Benefits:

- Leagues will begin to schedule multipurpose field for games
  - Currently only used for practice
  - Will relieve pressure on other fields
- Increased capacity from synthetic turf and lights
- Fewer rainouts, improved reliability
- Less daily maintenance (field prep)
- City has full scheduling abilities

Potential Hours Increase: Low - Moderate

Cost Estimate: Low - Moderate



City-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

Beaver Lake Park

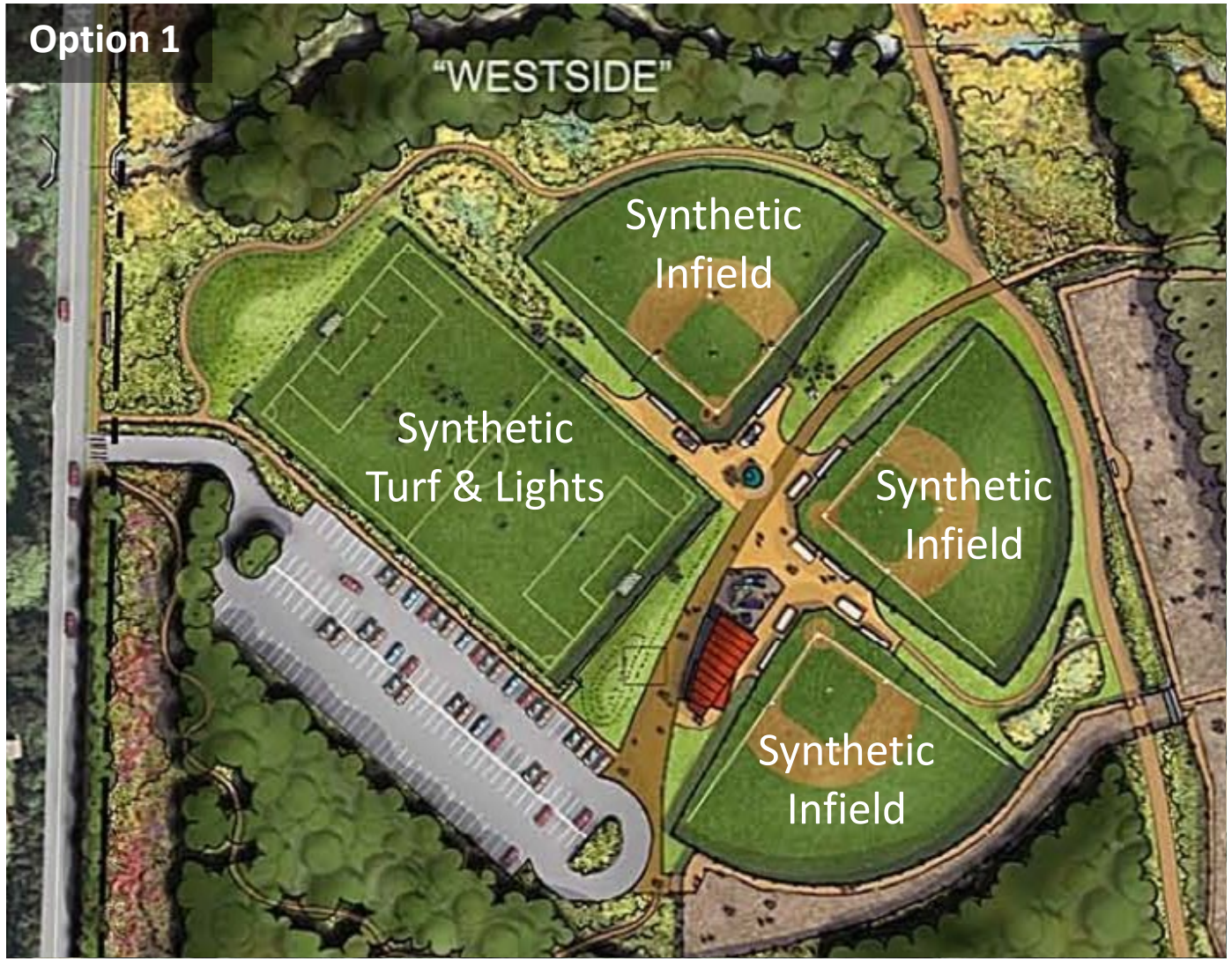
- Master Plan adopted in 2010

Benefits:

- Additional synthetic soccer field
- Fewer rainouts, improved reliability
- City has full scheduling abilities

Potential Hours Increase: High

Cost Estimate: Moderate



City-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

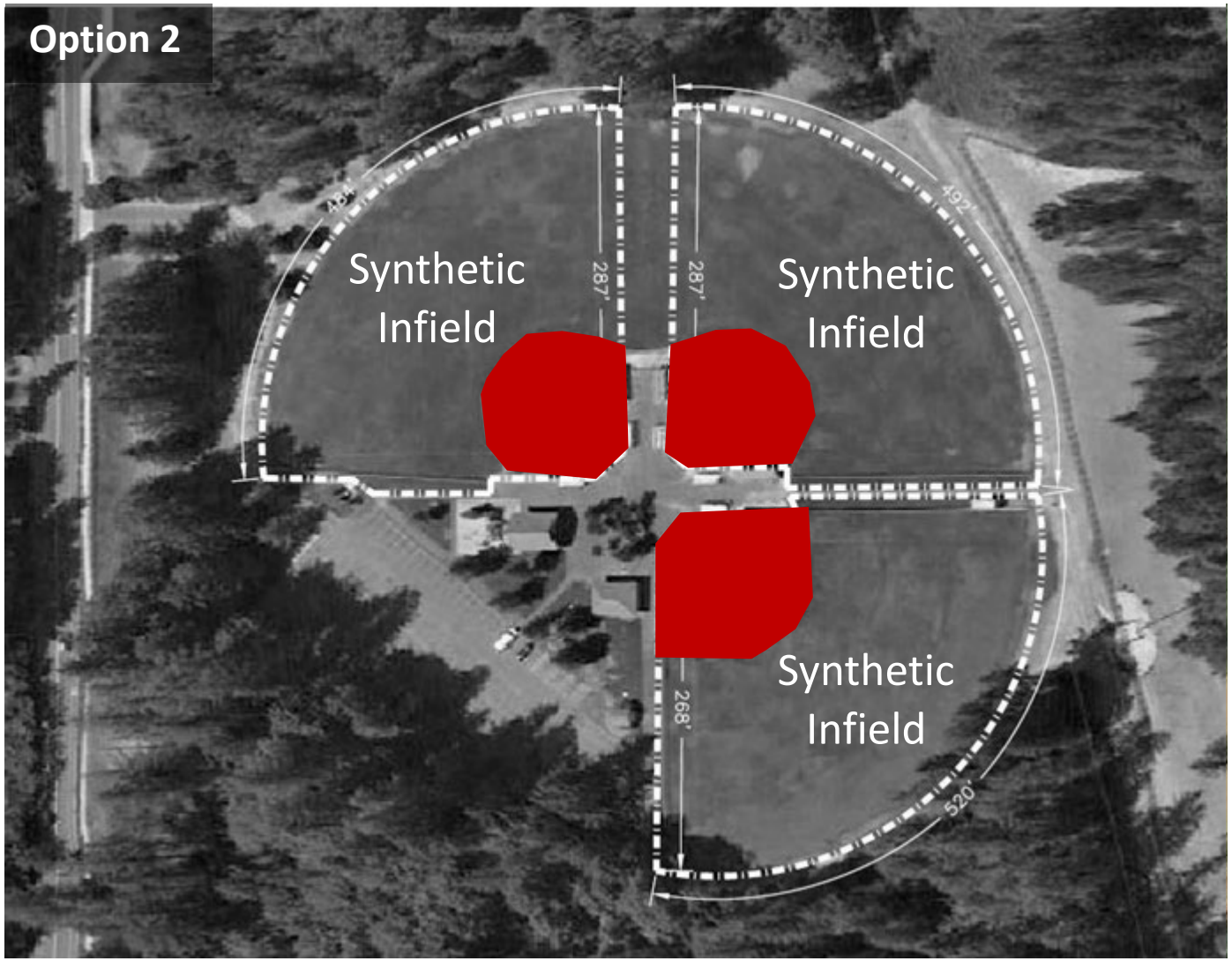
Beaver Lake Park

Benefits:

- Retain existing field configuration and size
  - Lower cost than MP
- Fewer rainouts, improved reliability
- Less daily maintenance (field prep)
- City has full scheduling abilities

Potential Hours Increase: Moderate

Cost Estimate: Low



City-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

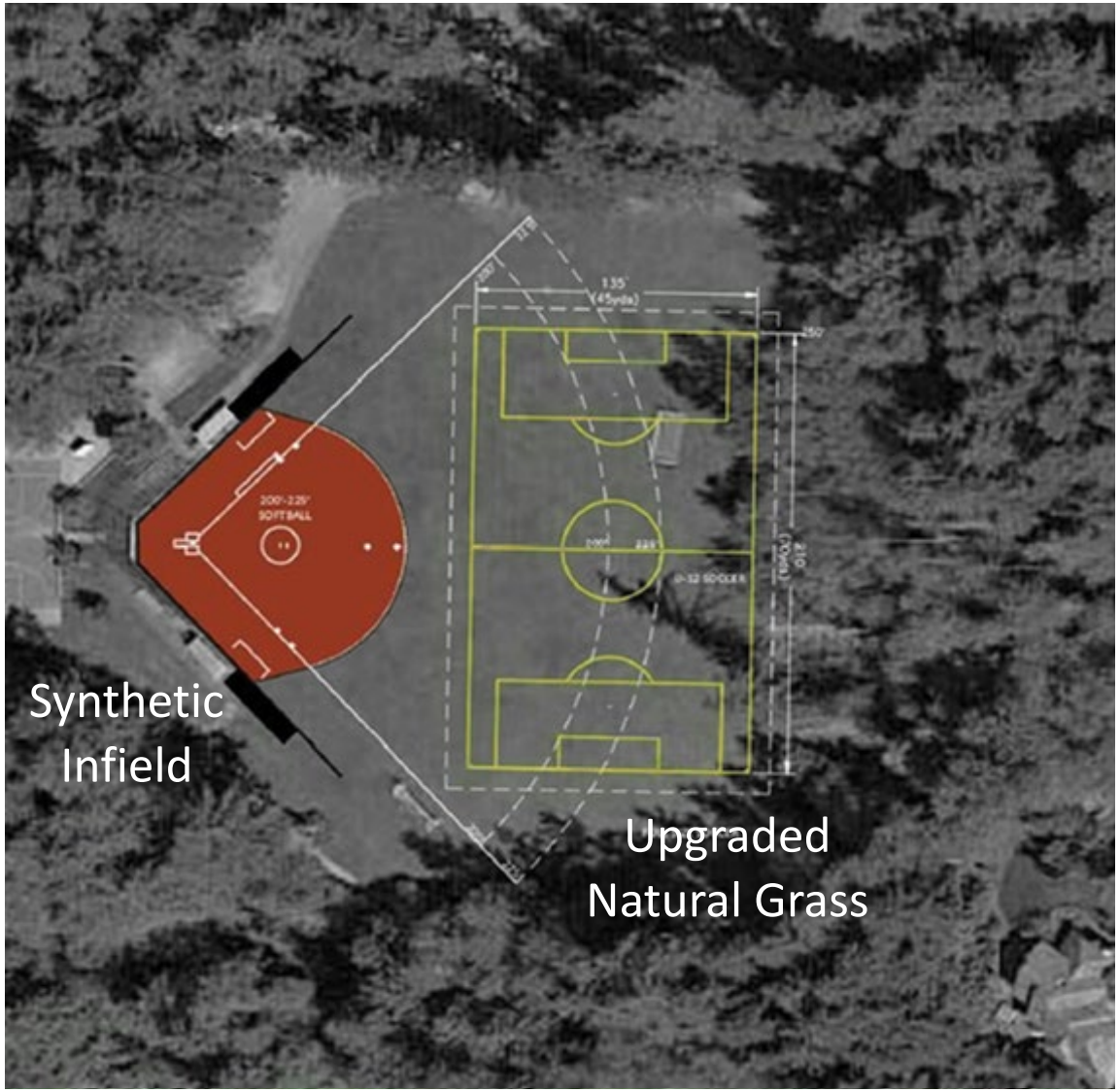
Pine Lake Park

Benefits:

- Fewer rainouts, improved reliability
- Less daily maintenance (field prep)
- Improved grass outfield benefits special events

Potential Hours Increase: Low

Cost Estimate: Low



City-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

Klahanie Park

Benefits:

- Multipurpose fields remain natural
- Increased size of cricket field
- Fewer rainouts, improved reliability
- Less daily maintenance (field prep)

Potential Hours Increase: Low

Cost Estimate: Moderate - High

LWSD-Owned Facility Upgrade Opportunities

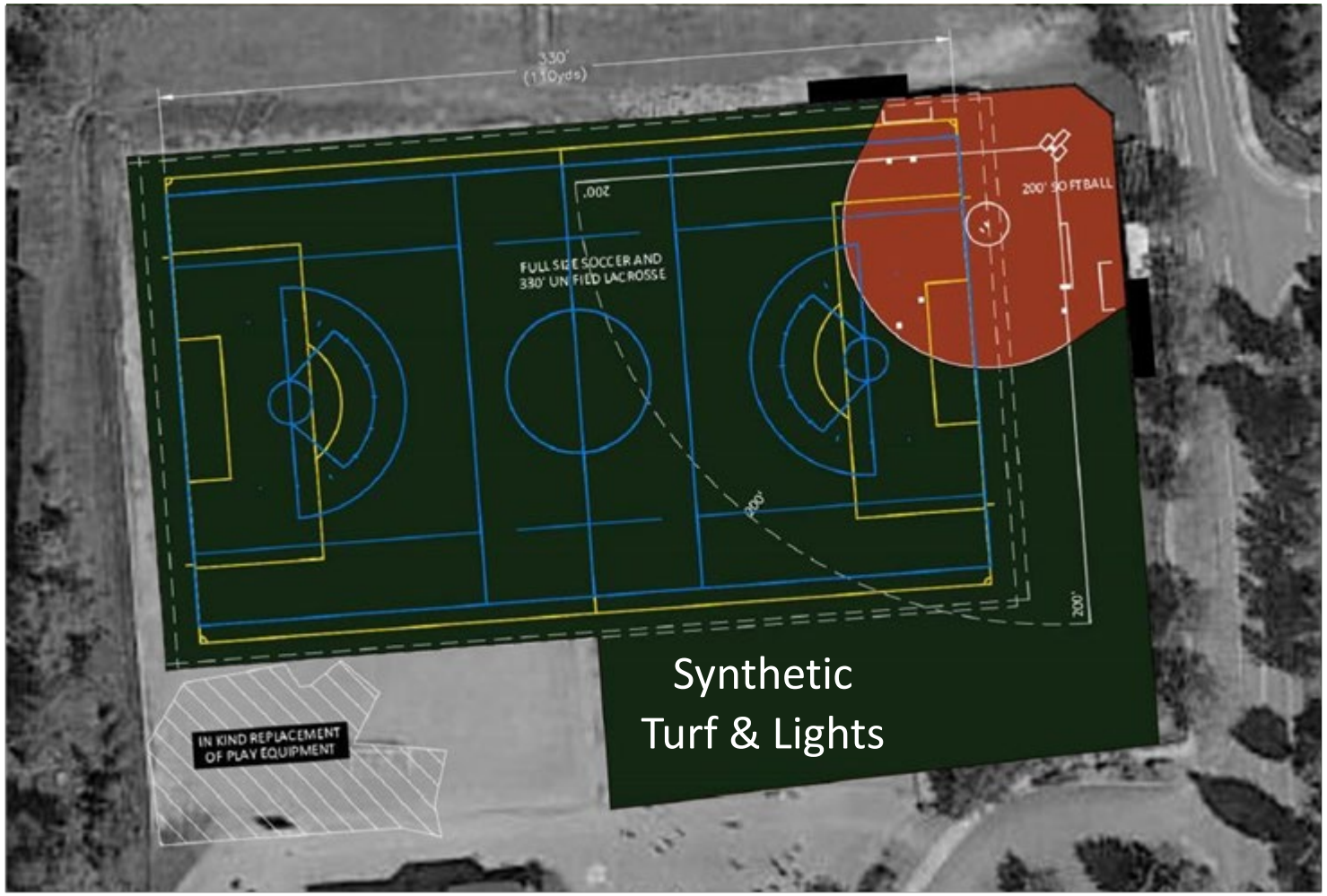
Blackwell Elementary

Benefits:

- Increased capacity from synthetic turf and lights
- Improved reliability
- Partnership already established with LWSD
  - City will schedule after school and weekends

Potential Hours Increase: Moderate

Cost Estimate: Moderate



Athletic Field Layout

Option 1 – Parks CIP

- 1 synthetic turf multi-purpose field accommodating:
  - Soccer
  - Unified lacrosse
- Lighting
- Restroom with storage
- Stormwater improvements
- *LWSD request: 6 lane running track*

Potential Hours Increase: Moderate

Cost Estimate: Moderate

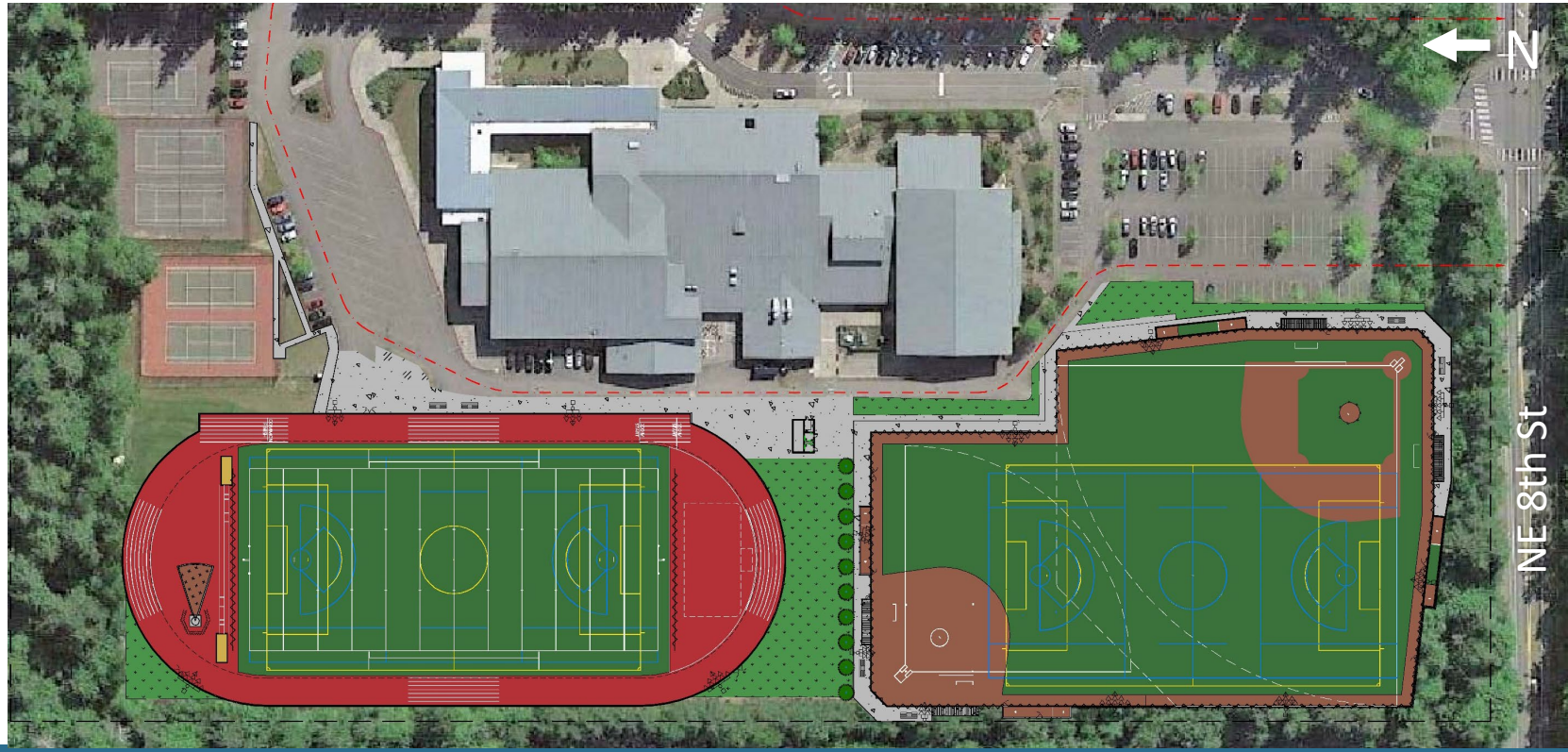
Athletic Field Layout

Option 2 - Reconfiguration

- 2 synthetic turf multi-purpose fields accommodating:
  - Soccer
  - Unified lacrosse
- 1 softball field
- 1 baseball field
- Lighting
- Restroom with storage
- Stormwater improvements
- *LWSD request: 6 lane running track*

Potential Hours Increase: High

Cost Estimate: High



Inglewood M.S.

Anticipated Project Costs

	Option 1	Option 2
Running Track*	$1.4 - $1.7M	$1.4 - $1.7M
Multi-purpose Field 1	$2.8 - $3.3M	$2.8 - $3.3M
Multi-purpose Field 2		$4.4 - $5.3M
Construction Costs	**$4.2 - $5M**	**$8.6 - $10.3M****
Design Costs	**$375,000**	**$605,000**

**Portion of work to be funded by LWSD*

***Requires additional funds be allocated during biennial budget process*

Facility Upgrade Opportunities

General Recommendations

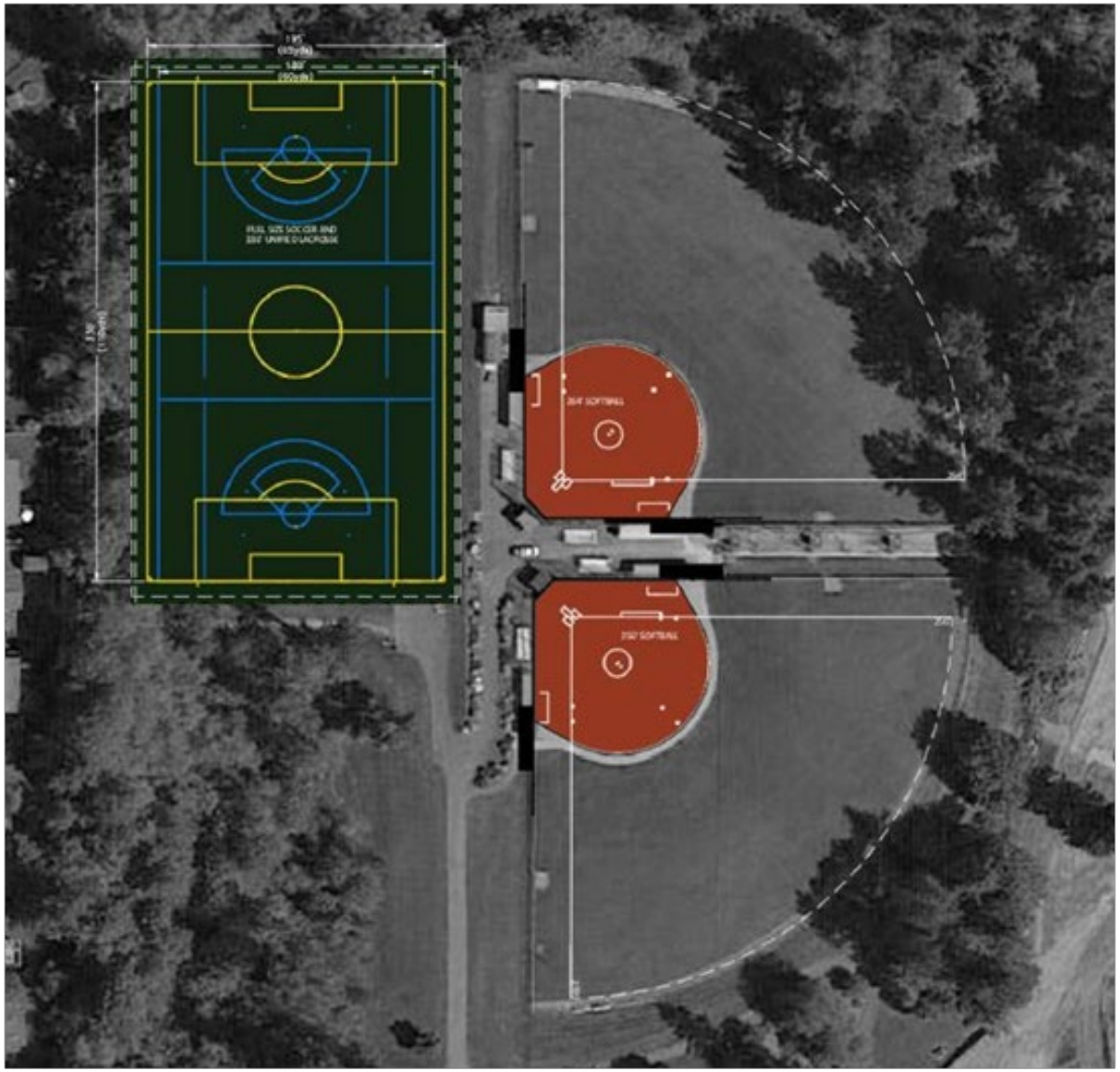
- Baseball infield conversions to synthetic turf
  - Decrease in rainouts
  - Less daily maintenance (field prep)
- Conversion of sand-silt elementary fields to natural grass or turf
  - Rent out for practice, relieves pressure at full-sized sites

Priority Facilities

Priority Facilities

Top 4

- Inglewood Middle School
- Beaver Lake Park
- East Sammamish Park
- Blackwell Elementary School



Next Steps

Next Steps

- Council feedback incorporated into Athletic Field Study