



Diane Nichols Tradd
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Craig Thomas
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

FROM: Diane N. Tradd, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

DATE: June 25, 2019

SUBJECT: COUNCIL MOTION OF 4/2/19 BY COUNCILOR NUON
REQUEST CITY MANAGER HAVE DPD GIVE UPDATED STATUS ON THE LIGHTING AT THE ROBERTO
CLEMENTE BASEBALL FIELD

The Department of Planning and Development (DPD) met with the City Electrician to discuss the existing infrastructure at Koumantzelis Park, including the Roberto Clemente Baseball Field. The existing electrical infrastructure at the park does not support the desire to have any of the existing fields lit, or to supply power for a future concession building or scoreboard.

At the suggestion of the City Electrician, DPD solicited proposals for electrical design work from three engineering firms and held site visits with each. These companies have expertise in designing electrical plans that can help us achieve the goal of lighting at the field. DPD staff had some difficulty identifying three companies that would be interested in a project of this scope, but have recently been able to solicit an appropriate number of quotes for this work.

In order to provide improved lighting to the Roberto Clemente Field, provide power to a concession building and a scoreboard, the park would need new service brought in. DPD learned during electrical design site visits that the City would need to have a site survey for the property before we would be able to approach the utility company regarding the installation of new service. DPD has begun the process of soliciting proposals from local surveyors.

Each electrical design company was asked to provide the City with pricing to design the new electrical service and perform construction oversight for Clemente Field, which will include one scoreboard and a future concession stand. The electrical engineers were also asked to include the design for future lighting to the two existing softball fields, the basketball court area and the pedestrian walkway. The work required to bring new electrical service to Koumantzelis Park is substantial, and DPD staff believe the cost benefit to the City for planning ahead for future expansion is the most economical strategy to pursue.

In addition to soliciting professional services to advance this project, DPD staff researched funding opportunities to help cover the costs associated with this park improvement project. Unfortunately the electrical work at Koumantzelis Park is not eligible for a PARC grant from the state due to the existence of overhead powerlines on the property which provide service to the Bartlett Community Partnership School. Overhead powerlines are not allowed in parks that are funded by PARC grants, and the available funding sources are not adequate to bury the existing lines and perform the necessary future work to improve the park conditions. DPD staff is using available parks and open space state earmark funds to cover the costs associated with initial survey and design work required for this project. DPD staff will continue to pursue other funding opportunities including City capital funds to help cover costs associated with the necessary construction work.

The recently completed Open Space and Recreation Plan includes the improvements at Clemente Field at Koumantzelis Park in the action items for the first few years of the plan. DPD staff will continue to work with design firms to establish a quality design and establish clear phasing of the work to complete the priority portion of the project and have the Clemente Field lights completed, while planning for future improvements to the full park.

DNT/ns

cc: Yovani Baez-Rose, Design Planner