

Shaker Heights Track & Field Renovation Project

If a picture is worth a thousand words, here are a few thousand to consider.....

The Present



The Future



The Problem: Shaker Heights needs more and better fields for its community and school athletic teams. The fields at the High School and Woodbury cannot adequately absorb rain and have become unplayable. The High School track has outlived its useful life. This situation impacts all outdoor high school teams, the Shaker Band and all community youth sports teams.

The Answer: A volunteer group of Shaker parents and coaches has come together to encourage the City of Shaker Heights and the Shaker Heights Schools to undertake a joint project that would result in the installation of:

- A new all-weather synthetic grass field at the High School
- A new all-weather synthetic grass field behind Woodbury School
- A new all-weather running track at the High School

Important Details:

- The project is expected to cost \$2 million to \$2.5 million, which can be paid back over 20 years.
- The Schools have indicated that they favor a combined City and Schools approach for new fields and a new track.
- The City can take out a loan that would result in a modest payback of about \$5,000 per month from the Schools and City.
- The combined annual budget of the City and Schools is \$130 million, which would permit them to cover the cost of this investment in new fields and a track.
- If the project begins in early 2012, it would be ready for the fall school and community team seasons.
- Committed private fundraising to help the City and Schools pay down the debt.
- **This is not a tax increase.**

Who Wins:

- High School football, soccer, lacrosse and field hockey teams get new fields.
- High School track teams get a new track. Shaker will be able to host a home track meet for the first time in 2 years.
- High School baseball team will not see its right field destroyed by community team games and practices.
- Community soccer and lacrosse teams get new fields.
- The Shaker Band will have a new field for its practices.
- Community residents will get a new track for exercise.