



SCHOOL BOARD ACTION REPORT

DATE: January 23, 2017
FROM: Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent
LEAD STAFF: Dr. Lester Herndon, Associate Superintendent, Facilities and Operations
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1. TITLE

BTA IV: Approve Amendment No. 2 for Contract P5034, to Lydig Construction, Inc., for Robert Eagle Staff Middle School Synthetic Turf Athletic Field
For Introduction: February 1, 2017
For Action: February 15, 2017

2. PURPOSE

This Board Action Report details a construction contract amendment that totals \$1,884,608, which would upgrade the new athletic fields at Robert Eagle Staff Middle School to synthetic turf with a cork infill material.

3. RECOMMENDED MOTION

I move that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to execute a contract amendment with Lydig Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,884,608 plus Washington State sales tax, for the Robert Eagle Staff Middle School Synthetic Turf Athletic Field, in the form of the draft Amendment No. 2 dated January 6, 2017, and attached to the School Board Action Report, with any minor additions, deletions, and modifications deemed necessary by the Superintendent, and to take any necessary actions to implement the contract amendment.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

a. Background

The athletic fields at Robert Eagle Staff Middle School were originally designed and bid as natural grass athletic fields. When BTA IV passed in March 2016, the project team was directed to prepare revised bid documents to obtain bid pricing for changing the field material from grass to synthetic turf. Three different turf infill material options were bid to provide a range of options for the District, including:

- Styrene Butadiene Rubber (SBR), also known as “crumb rubber”;
- Cork;
- Thermo Plastic Elastomer (TPE).

As the Board has previously noted receipt of public comments surrounding health concerns related to the use of SBR crumb rubber Seattle Public Schools formed a committee to identify alternative infill mixtures (to SBR crumb rubber) until more definitive health studies were conducted. Infill alternatives were identified for consideration that did not pose a greater injury risk to athletes and had similar maintenance characteristics as SBR crumb rubber to retain continuity in Grounds Department maintenance practices and not increase annual operating costs. Cork and TPE were selected as two synthetic turf infill mixtures that met those criteria and were bid against SBR crumb rubber to establish a cost differential.

Bid Package 25 - Synthetic Turf was subsequently prepared and publicly bid on November 17, 2016. Seven (7) firms submitted bids to Lydig Construction, Inc., the District's General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM). A copy of the Bid Tabulation form is attached. Costs of the infill material vary, based on the bids received: SBR crumb rubber is the least costly infill mixture; cork is approximately \$0.50/sq. ft. more than SBR crumb rubber; and TPE is approximately \$1.00/sq. ft. more than SBR crumb rubber. Again, long-term maintenance procedures of the three selected infill materials are similar and there is no anticipated increase in annual operating costs concerning infill material selection.

Until publication of more definitive studies concerning the use of SBR crumb rubber this Board Action Report is seeking approval of the use of cork as the synthetic turf infill material and authorization for the Superintendent to execute a contract amendment with the contractor.

b. Alternatives

Alternatives include:

- Selecting a different synthetic turf infill material than the recommended material;
- Not upgrading the athletic fields to synthetic turf, and installing natural grass athletic fields instead.

The latter alternative is not recommended as it would potentially delay construction of the athletic fields such that they would not be ready for use at the start of school in September 2017. In addition, natural turf athletic fields would not withstand the wear and tear of the anticipated field use.

c. Research

The District, in consultation with its selected consultants and other governmental agencies, reviewed and evaluated several alternative turf infill material options prior to making a recommendation to the School Board. Cork is the recommended alternative infill mixture material to SBR crumb rubber.

5. FISCAL IMPACT/REVENUE SOURCE

Fiscal impact to this action will be \$1,884,608.

The revenue source for this motion is the BTA IV capital levy.

Expenditure: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

Revenue: One-time Annual Multi-Year N/A

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

With guidance from the District’s Community Engagement tool, this action was determined to merit the following tier of community engagement:

- Not applicable
- Tier 1: Inform
- Tier 2: Consult/Involve
- Tier 3: Collaborate

Athletic field improvements at Robert Eagle Staff Middle School were identified in the BTA IV capital levy. Community engagement was part of the BTA IV levy approval process.

7. EQUITY ANALYSIS

The District’s goal is to provide student access to synthetic turf fields at all of its middle and high schools. Jane Addams, Eckstein, Whitman, and Denny middle schools already have access to synthetic turf fields on campus. Mercer MS has access to a synthetic turf field owned by Seattle Parks. The middle school portion of Salmon Bay K-8 has access to an on-site synthetic turf field. Upgrading the fields at Robert Eagle Staff MS to synthetic turf would bring it into line with the other middle schools.

8. STUDENT BENEFIT

Synthetic turf provides a safe, resilient and low maintenance option for athletic fields and allows for year-round use by students on a daily basis, in all weather conditions. Unlike synthetic turf fields, the use of natural grass fields is restricted during periods of inclement weather and cannot be used in the rain, must be closed for long periods to allow grass re-growth, and requires significantly more maintenance and water usage.

9. WHY BOARD ACTION IS NECESSARY

- Amount of contract initial value or contract amendment exceeds \$250,000 (Policy No. 6220)
- Amount of grant exceeds \$250,000 in a single fiscal year (Policy No. 6114)
- Adopting, amending, or repealing a Board policy
- Formally accepting the completion of a public works project and closing out the contract
- Legal requirement for the School Board to take action on this matter
- Board Policy No. _____, [TITLE], provides the Board shall approve this item
- Other: _____

10. POLICY IMPLICATION

Per Board Policy No. 6220, Procurement, all contracts exceeding \$250,000 must be approved by the Board. Amendment No. 2 to Contract P5034 exceeds \$250,000.

11. BOARD COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

This motion was discussed at the Operations Committee meeting on January 19. The Committee moved this item forward to the full Board with a recommendation for approval.

12. TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Upon Board approval, the contract amendment will be approved and a Notice to Proceed for the installation of the athletic fields will be issued to the contractor. The athletic fields will be completed prior to the start of school in September 2017.

13. ATTACHMENTS

- Contract Amendment No. 2