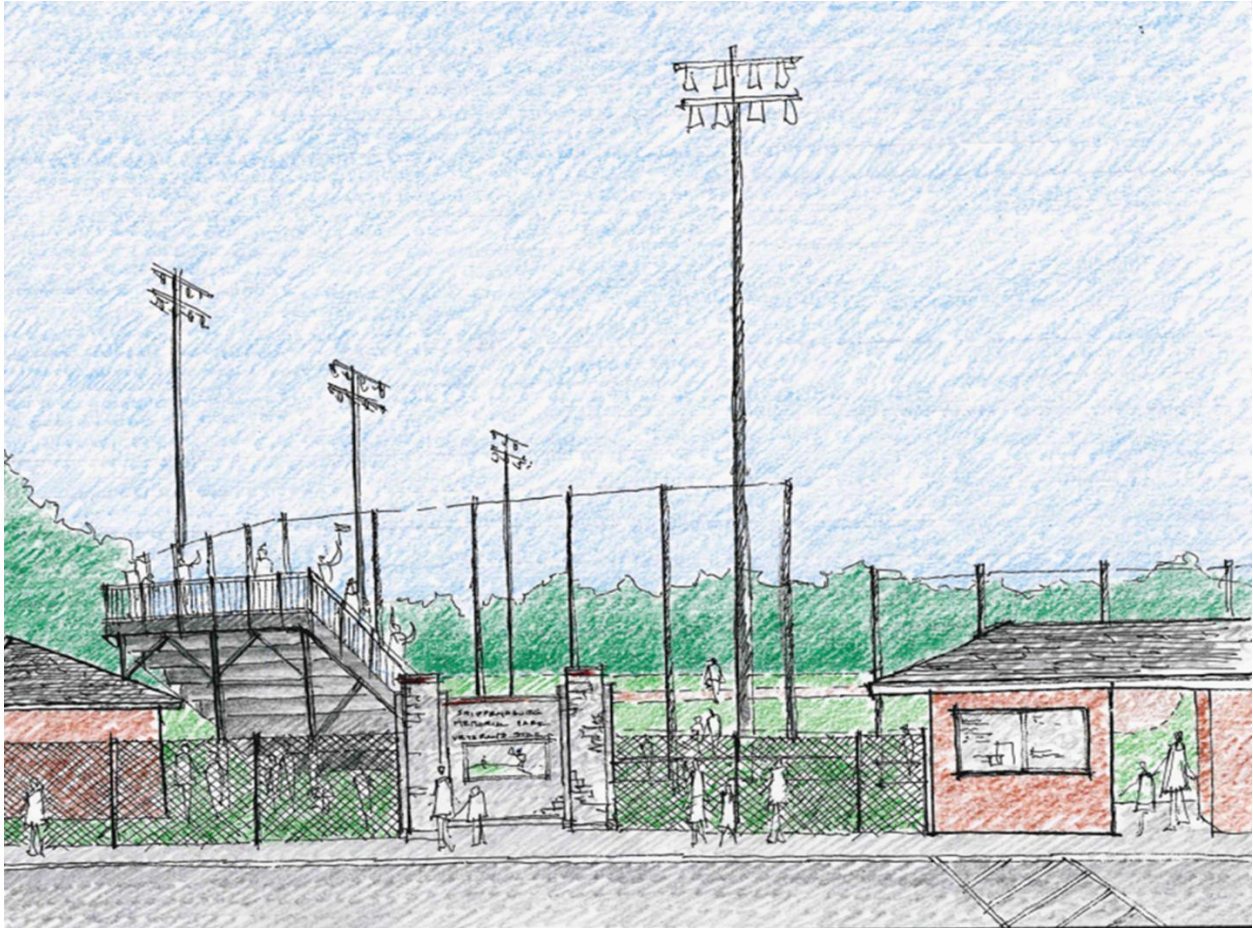


FACILITY IMPROVEMENT REVIEW

Veterans Stadium, Shippensburg Memorial Park

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Presented by:

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Facility Improvement Summary

Project Justification

The proposed project supports the Shippensburg Community Park and Recreation Authority (SCPRA) and the Shippensburg Area Athletic Association (SAAA) goals of bringing the community and events back to the Memorial Park by making improvements to the baseball/softball field at Veterans Stadium. We hope other groups will show their support for this project by approving our proposed plan for improvements to the stadium.

Facility improvements to the stadium offer the potential for these groups to increase their connection with the community. It will be the home of the Shippensburg Stars, Shippensburg Legion Baseball, Shippensburg Suburban Baseball and Shippensburg Suburban Softball. It will also provide the community with a facility available for a wide variety of needs and increasing the connection with the community.

The following highlights the reasons this project is both necessary and timely:

- Will add a variety of new sports and programs to the Shippensburg community.
- Allow the community to use the facility when events aren't taking place.
- Allow for baseball and softball tournaments to be played.
- Create a sense of pride in the community for its members and veterans.

Project Description

The improvements to the stadium will not only increase the quality of play for baseball/softball but will also allow it to host other sports, entertainment, civic, and cultural events. The stadium will be flexible and multifunctional.

Facility Improvements to the baseball/softball field will include shifting the infield 17 feet away from the football/soccer field, an all-dirt infield with collegiate grade portable pitching mound, new backstop, new dugouts, batting cage, and bull pens. These upgrades and additions will create a spectacular venue to host community events.

Schedule

The Shippensburg Area Athletic Association (SAAA) has received approval from the Shippensburg Community Park and Recreation Authority (SCPRA) for the facility improvements at Veterans Stadium during their December meeting. The SAAA and the SCPRA presented these improvements to Shippensburg Borough Council at their December meeting and received approval from Borough Council at their January meeting. Allowing us to start fundraising for the facility improvement.

Fundraising has already started! We currently have \$20,000 in funds raised. Once we have reached our goal of \$80,000, we will begin the facility improvement of the baseball/softball field. We anticipate improvements starting at the beginning of March and completion by May 1.

Conclusion

Renovating the multipurpose stadium at Shippensburg Memorial Park will rejuvenate our memorial to the veterans of Shippensburg and create an energized atmosphere in our community, while providing a top-notch facility for community sports and entertainment.

Facility Information

Vision/Mission Statement

Our stadium will be more than a baseball and football field. It will be a gathering place for our community to assemble in honor of our veterans to watch community events. A landmark in which our community takes great pride in!

Programs

The facility improvements to the stadium multipurpose facility will include a number of programs to support the vision and mission statement of the project:

- Community baseball/softball games and practices
- Allowance for new sports (rugby, field hockey, soccer, etc.)
- Concerts
- Open community facility

Stadium History

While many of the current Shippensburg community's grandfathers and fathers were off fighting in World War II, the Shippensburg community searched for a way to honor these brave men. They decided the best way to do this was by creating a park in memory and a stadium in honor of them.

The Shippensburg Memorial Park was dedicated to the community of Shippensburg on September 4, 1950, as a permanent memorial to Shippensburg area war veterans. On dedication night, you would have found everyone in Shippensburg at Veterans Stadium for the first glimpse of the new combination baseball-football lighted

facility. For 60 years baseball and football coexisted together at Veterans Stadium.

In 2010, the Shippensburg Borough decided to remove the baseball field from the stadium with the hope of creating a multipurpose sports facility that did not include baseball. A multipurpose facility never materialized over the 4 years that baseball was not played at the stadium. Veterans Stadium during the time was only used in the fall for football games.

In 2013, the Shippensburg Area Athletic Association (SAAA) approached the Shippensburg Borough to reinstall the baseball field within Veterans Stadium. The project was planned and funded by community donations that were raised by the SAAA. In May of 2014, baseball was being played at Veterans Stadium once again.

Over the past 68 years the stadium has deteriorated to the state it is today, with very little upgrades done to the facility. The Shippensburg Community Park and Recreation Authority (SCPRA) and the Shippensburg Area Athletic Association have been devising a plan to renovate the stadium. It is time to rejuvenate Veterans Stadium into the community landmark that we can take great pride in and also one that proudly honors our veterans!

Improvement Needs

Facility Improvements will include the following.

- Repositioning the baseball/softball infield so it does not touch the football/soccer field

- An all-dirt infield that will accommodate all ages of play for baseball and softball
- A new backstop
- Dugouts with a shade sail canopy
- Press box behind home plate
- Batting cage
- Bull pen

These improvements will increase sporting events, programs, and revenue to the SCPRA and the community.

Benefits of the Project

The SCPRA and the SAAA have defined the following benefits that the improvements to the stadium will bring to the community, current programs, and future programs:

1. Safer Facility
 - a. New backstop and fencing to protect the players and fans
 - b. Premium grade all-dirt infield. The firm traction allows quick starts and stops that elevates the level of play and helps prevent injuries.
2. Ability to develop strong traditions that
 - a. Unify our community.
 - b. Create lifetime ties with our community.
 - c. Enable us to engage deeply with our donors.
3. Deliver a positive economic impact to the Shippensburg Community.
4. Rejuvenate a multi-use facility to our community which is a

landmark gathering place in which we take great pride in.

5. Improvements would be a catalyst for sports teams, arts, entertainment, civic, and cultural events within our community.

Project Description

Facility Improvement Narrative

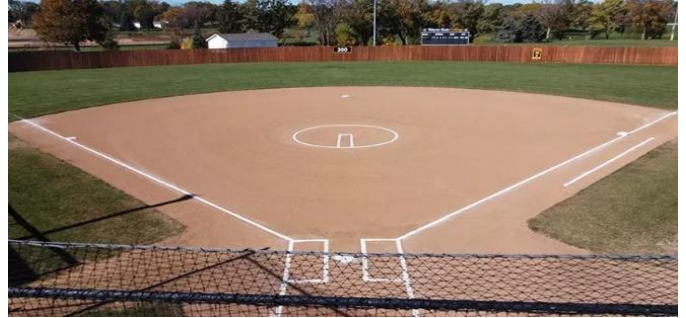
The location of the proposed stadium improvement is located at Veterans Stadium, which is within Shippensburg Memorial Park. The upgrades to the stadium will include an overhaul of the baseball/softball field. These improvements to the stadium are more than simply improving the baseball/softball field. It is allowing other sports to use the football/soccer field without interference from the addition of infield dirt. These improvements will also capture the passion and pride of the Shippensburg community in our veterans and athletes.



Baseball/Softball Field (Estimate \$80,000)

The baseball/softball field improvements are going to be a larger scale project. Improvements to the baseball field will consist of shifting the infield 17 feet toward the current backstop to ensure there is no overlap onto the football/soccer field. Installation of an all-dirt baseball/softball infield, new backstop, updating dugouts,

bull pens, batting cage, press box, and relocation of the bleachers.



All-dirt Baseball/Softball Infield (\$35,000)

The installation of an all-dirt infield will consist of removing the grass area and 4 inches of dirt. The grass and dirt will be replaced with Diamond-Tex Premium Infield Mix, which provides a variety of benefits for everyone that plays on this field such as;

- **Safety** – Diamond-Tex Infield Mix provides safety by compacting to a firm, smooth surface that plays true and minimizes bad hops. The firm traction allows quick starts and stops that elevates the level of play and helps prevent injuries. Also eliminates dangerous objects and sharp stones that can cause injury.
- **Playability** – A well-compacted and properly graded Diamond- Tex infield helps drain water off the field so the surface recovers quickly after a rain. Field may be playable even when other fields might be unplayable.
- **Less Maintenance** – Properly designed infield requires less maintenance because it takes few soil amendments and less man-hours to prepare the field of play. This saves groundskeepers time and

valuable dollars that can be used elsewhere.

The installation of an all-dirt infield will allow baseball and softball players of all ages to be able to use the stadium field. The infield will have base anchors for 60', 70', and 90' base paths. We will be using a portable pitching mound for baseball games. The mound will be able to be removed for softball games. All these improvements to the baseball/softball infield will elevate the quality of play for all ages.

Backstop (\$34,000)

The current backstop at the stadium is in dire need of being replaced. The new backstop will have a 4'x 60' wall directly behind home plate with a black baseball grade netting extending upward from the wall attached to 4 new poles. There will be a blue padding on the wall facing the field with the words VETERANS STADIUM in red and white color. These upgrades to the backstop will not only help to keep players and fans safe but will also improve the overall appearance of the stadium.



Shade Sail Dugout (\$3,000)

Shade sail dugouts will be a great addition to the stadium. These dugouts will have a 4' chain link fence enclosing the dugouts. New shade sails will be purchased for the dugout areas. There will be a chain link fence placed in front of the dugout to protect the players. This style of dugout will shield

players from the sun but will also allow the players and community the ability to still interact with each other. The player/community interaction is something that has always made our field different from most baseball fields!



Miscellaneous Items (\$8,000)

The bull pen on the first base side will have a new home plate area installed. There will be a bull pen added to the third base side of the field. Both bull pens will look the same. In addition to the bull pens, a batting cage will be installed on the third base side of the field. The shed currently located inside the stadium will be repurposed into a press box that will sit behind the backstop on the third base side. These are all additions that will increase player performance and entice other teams to use our field.

These improvements and additions to the baseball/softball field area will improve the playability for our teams and will improve upon a fan friendly stadium. Baseball has a rich tradition in our community and it's time we gave that tradition the facility it deserves!

Project Cost Estimate

The total estimated cost of construction for this project is approximately \$80,000.

Project Schedule

The Shippensburg Area Athletic Association

presented these plans to the Shippensburg Community Park and Recreation Authority at their December 5th meeting for approval and received approval. SAAA and SCPRA presented these plans to the Shippensburg Borough Council at their December meeting. Plans were approved at their January meeting.

Raising funds has already started and will continue from now till March. Facility improvements will start in March of 2025 and will be finished by May 1, 2025. Just in time for the 2025 baseball/softball season.

Appendix A – Renovation Budget and Funding Plan

Baseball Field--\$80,000

- **All-Dirt Baseball/Softball Infield--\$34,000**
- **Backstop--\$35,000**
- **Shade Sail Dugouts--\$3,000**
- **Miscellaneous items--\$8,000**
 - **Press box**
 - **Bull Pens**
 - **Batting Cage**

Funding Stadium Renovation Plan

- **Business and Public Donations**
 - **Launch our Veterans Stadium Renovation Campaign**
 - **Go to local business in person to ask for donations.**
- **Fundraising**
- **Grants**
- **Donation of Material and Labor**

Appendix B – Plans / Renderings



Key

- 1. Batting Cage
- 2. Bull Pen
- 3. Bleacher
- 4. Bleacher
- 5. Dugout
- 6. Press Box
- 7. Dugout
- 8. Bleacher
- 9. Bull Pen