

2023 CIP - Phase II - Schematic Design: Meeting #2

MEETING MINUTES

PROJECT: Akron Central School District – 2023 Capital Improvements Project Phase II

CPL PROJECT NO.: R21.13091.12

DATE OF MEETING: March 15, 2024 (9:00a.m. EST)

PERSONS PRESENT:

Akron CSD

Andrea Kersten, Superintendent
Cindy Tretter, Business Administrator
Joe Caprio, Middle School Principal
Paul Kowalski, Technology Director
Andy Clouse, Football Head Coach
Daric Brege, Track Head Coach

Village of Akron

Brian Murray, Planning Board Chairman

Town of Newstead

David Miller, Code Enforcement Officer
Dan Roland, Recreation Director

The Seneca Nation

Roger Hill, Tonawanda Seneca Nation Chief

Akron Soccer League

Jamie Kingsland

CPL

Jason Benfante, Vice President
Brady Morrison, Senior Architectural Designer
Austin Genberg, Architectural Designer
Norm Gardner, Senior Engineering Project Manager

Buffalo Engineering

Dante Izzo, Principal Mechanical & Plumbing Engineer

Campus Construction Management Group

Vaughn Maracle, Project Executive
Megan Sykes, Senior Project Manager



DISCUSSION:

A general discussion was conducted in effort to finalize schematic design for the project to gather information.

Specific topics discussed were as follows:

I. Turf

- A. The district liked the style of the “BULLDOGS” branding incorporated into Alden CSD’s Field.
- B. CPL presented a concern that Alden’s Field has a busy appearance due to the manner in which the sports lines, branding, and school colors are incorporated.
 - i. The district did not share this concern and felt that Alden’s field was not too busy.
- C. The district presented Waynesville (Missouri) High School’s Field as an example of a field design that they found attractive.
 - i. Liked tiger face/eyes in endzones and use of school colors.
- D. CPL to review Yellow Vs. White soccer lines.
- E. CPL to review adding Women’s flag football lines.
- F. Field Athletics Usage:

SPORT	# OF EVENTS/YEAR (All Levels)
Football	8-10
Lacrosse	18
Soccer	72
Field Hockey	16-20
TOTAL	120 + (2-3 practices/day)

- G. West Irondequoit was presented as an example of a lacrosse-heavy district that has successfully maintained their multisport turf field for over 15 years.
- H. The D-Zone between the football field and steeplechase should be turf.
 - i. The district presented a concern that if only one d-zone was turf that would create an asymmetrical aesthetic.



II. Track

- A. It was proposed that CPL review rotating the track and field complex (hinging at the plan north corner of the track) to potentially gain more space along the visitor side of the field to incorporate the long jump course outside of the track/d-zone.
 - i. This rotation will inherently create more cut and, therefore, an increase in costs. Potential need for a retaining wall.
 - ii. This rotation could also bring the home bleachers within a sensible proximity to the existing concessions building, making the proposed renovation work at the existing building more practical.
- B. CPL to review utilizing fill created from the new athletics complex to repair existing baseball field.
 - i. It was presented by a member of the community that they felt the baseball field should remain natural grass, and instead of recreating the field in turf, the district should consider revitalizing the existing field.
- C. CPL to review grey track surface.
 - i. Are there different shades of grey (Standard)?
 - ii. The district would prefer to put money into their other sports fields than pay for a premium track color.

III. Field Events

- A. The district reconfirmed the following are required:
 - i. Only one approach direction/mat for pole vault
 - ii. Two Shotput throwing areas.
 - iii. One Discus throwing area.

IV. Spectator Seating:

- A. The district was satisfied with the current design of the home bleachers with the elevated standing space to the back, elevated circulation space in the front, and a grade-level circulation/standing space between the bleachers and the track fencing.
 - i. Currently the design provides a 9' wide grade-level walkway between the bleachers and the track fence. The district requested that CPL review narrowing this walkway.
- B. Visitors' seating will be made up of district-owned non-fixed bleachers.



- i. A concrete pad large enough to accommodate a future 250-person fixed bleachers system will be provided.
 - C. The district liked the concept of providing a covered walkway below the home bleachers.
 - D. This covered walkway would provide opportunities to:
 - i. Showcase Senior Athletes
 - ii. Showcase Track Records
 - iii. Incorporate a Walk of Fame
 - iv. Set up school store stands during sporting events.
 - v. Provide some shelter for athletes during a storm (Bleacher system is not watertight)

V. Press Box

- A. The district was satisfied with the current design of the press box.
- B. Film Deck – SED limits film decks to 250SF.
- C. A discussion regarding fixed Vs. operable windows at the press box took place.
 - i. The district's head football coach felt that if the windows were operable, they should not be sliding or double-hung due to the center mullions creating visual interference. He proposed hopper windows.

VI. Concessions:

- A. Unless the track and field complex rotation creates a sensible proximity between the existing concessions building and the home bleacher, the district would prefer to invest the minimum amount necessary to preserve the existing building.
- B. If the proposed renovations to the concessions building are not accepted, then the district was agreeable to having a food truck and portable toilets brought in for larger events to meet the needs of the increased # of spectators.
 - i. The district will be required to obtain a permit to host a food truck.
 - ii. The district felt that scheduling for the food truck would be the biggest obstacle.
- C. If the proposed renovations to the concessions building are not accepted, then the perimeter fence line should be adjusted to die into the concessions building as close to the front as possible on both sides (side closets to the school has a door into



concessions that needs to be within the perimeter fence)

VII. Athletics Entrance

- A. The district liked the stone and the timeless appearance of the Geneva College entrance archway presented.
- B. The district liked the concept of “sponsor” pavers in the plaza.
- C. The district likes the aesthetic associated with banners on light poles (“Classy” “Collegiate”).

VIII. Scoreboard

- A. The district liked the idea of providing branding at the back face of the scoreboard, especially because the new scoreboard location creates a relationship between the road entrance and the back face of the scoreboard.

IX. Honor Seneca Nation

- A. Multiple options for incorporating Seneca language and imagery were discussed, including:
 - i. “Akron” or “Akron Tigers” in Seneca on the back face of the scoreboard (Will correspond with what is proposed in English)
 - ii. Incorporate language and/or imagery in the new entrance plaza.
 - iii. Incorporate language and/or imagery on the new athletics entrance.
 - iv. Incorporate language and/or imagery below the home bleachers.
- B. Chief Roger Hill of the Tonawanda Seneca Nation will provide CPL with potential language and imagery of Native American Importance to incorporate.

X. Security & Streaming Cameras

- A. The district was generally satisfied with the locations of security cameras, with the following additions:
 - i. Provide cameras below bleachers to monitor the covered walkway below.
 - ii. Provide cameras at some of the proposed light poles (Home side only).
- B. Hudl will provide the district with a live-streaming camera system to be installed at the new athletics complex.



XI. Front Sign:

- A. The front sign will incorporate the district's new tiger logo.
- B. It was proposed, and generally accepted, that the sign be placed on a central island within the roadway to address both directions of traffic on Bloomingdale Rd. (Separating the entrance & exit)
- C. The district requested that a natural visual barrier be provided between the roadway and neighboring houses to prevent potential conflict due to the proposed backlit signage.
- D. The district requested that supplemental signage be provided near the elementary school parking entrance informing spectators that the athletics complex is further ahead.

XII. Tennis Courts

- A. The district is more agreeable to repairing the existing tennis courts after receiving quotes for the repair work (roughly \$50k)
 - i. Current quotes do not include new nets but will be added moving forward.
- B. CPL to review incorporating a French drain at the perimeter of the courts.
- C. The district is open to having the tennis courts repaired this year if the courts will be playable by the upcoming tennis season (Spring 2025)

XIII. Parking

- A. The district presented a concern that people will attempt to park along the road edge and create unsafe conditions.
 - i. CPL to review providing a guardrail along the road edge on the side opposite the complex.
- B. The district asked if there was a way in which they could prevent people from parking in non-parking spaces.
 - i. Bollards could be provided around designated areas where parking is prohibited, but this would present the issue of interfering with snow removal.
- C. The district requested that CPL review extending the main athletic complex parking toward the ES/MS parking lot.
- D. An in-depth discussion took place regarding the flow/direction of traffic to and from the new athletics complex.



- i. Currently the road has a hybrid function with two-way traffic being allowed most of the day, but then limited to one-way traffic during certain hours.
- ii. The district felt that the road should become one-way permanently following the completion of the athletics complex.
- iii. CPL disagrees with making the road permanently one-way due to concerns of congestion, inefficient exiting from sporting events, and presenting the potential for spectators to park along the side of the road (District wants to prevent roadside parking)

XIV. Misc.

- A. A question was presented regarding the incorporation of metal detectors at the front entrance.
 - i. The district felt this level of security was not currently necessary but asked that provisions be in place for the potential of future need.
- B. It is intended to be proposed at the next school board meeting that the district will no longer charge for regular sporting events (Will be required if events at the sectional level or higher are held).
- C. The district requested that CPL and Campus be present and provide an update on the project at the April 16th Board of Education meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. If there are any errors or omissions in the basic discussion, please notify the Author within seven days.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin Genberg

CPL



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