



TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

Land Where Flight Began

MEMORANDUM

February 12, 2020

To: Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners

From: Commissioner Terry Gray

Subject: West-Side Recreation Group (WRG)— Meekins Field Recommendations

During the January 15, 2020, WRG meeting, Meekins Field was reviewed, including the online survey results that included (163) entries and a conceptual site plan prepared by Staff for redevelopment. Meekins Field is currently closed due to the construction of the new Kill Devil Hills Water Tower and Communications Monopole. These projects have disturbed much of Meekins Field, which will require extensive work to reopen the park. The WRG and Staff have identified Meekins Field's current state of disrepair as an opportunity to fully redevelop the facility, since significant funds will be required to bring it back to a usable park.

This recommendation makes the most of this unique opportunity by proposing modification of the site layout, including changes that will meet several recreational needs. After discussion, the group finalized its recommendations for redevelopment of Meekins Field in conjunction with the attached site plan:

- Expand and improve existing parking and drive aisle to include drop off circle and potential connection to adjacent shopping center.
- Relocate and construct new larger restroom facility.
- Separate cell provider data buildings with public art (art wall) and landscaping buffers.
- Redesign existing softball/temporary soccer field into three (3) multi-use fields to include soccer field (290' x 195'), a practice field (150' x 100'), and year-round turf practice field (150' x 100'). Explore the option of multi-use basketball court. Explore regulation size soccer field as long it does not remove other means of recreation.

The following points were added as a result of continued discussion at the WRG's January 15th meeting.

- Expanded playground area for ages 0-12 years of age, including accessible equipment. Explore recreational trending modern/alternative playground equipment. Examples include: bouldering, climbing wall, ninja course, zip line, and pump track.
- Incorporate greenways and paths around the parking, and/or amenities including adult fitness trail.
- Confirm existing lighting is compatible with any recreation proposed.
- Incorporate ornamental landscaping into parking design.