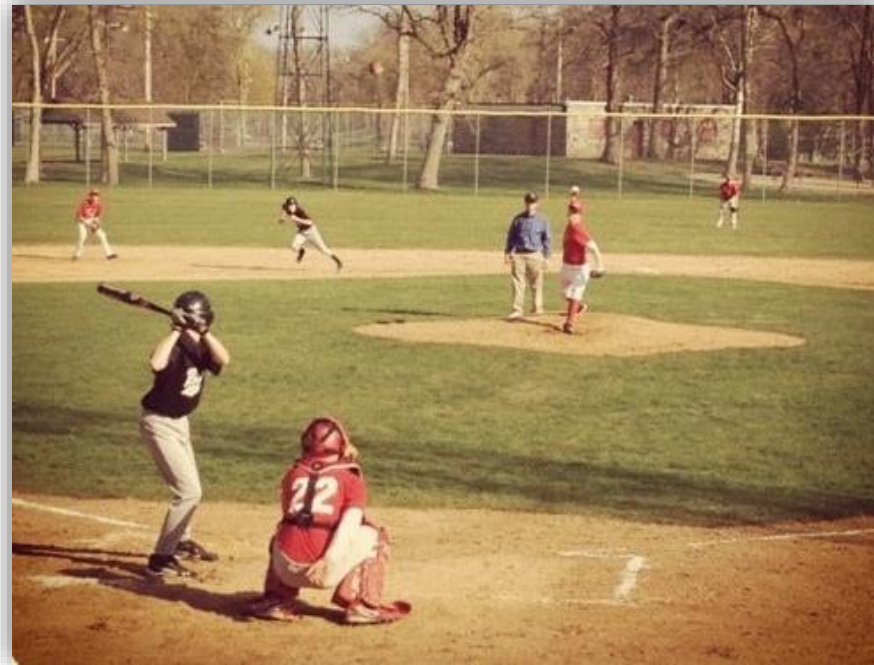


Historic Washington Park

Est. 1897



State Bond Request 2023

1897

Citizens began playing baseball at Detroit Lakes City Park

"It's time now to plan and work on Improvements at Ball Park"

Detroit Lakes Record Newspaper Headline September 11, 1947

1908

First grandstand built

1948

Dedication of a new facility (DL American Legion won their game 15-5, then went on to earn a spot in the Minnesota American Legion State Tournament! Also, football games and other events — including a visit by the circus were held at the new crown jewel facility.)

1947

- Voters approve (by a 2 to 1 margin) bonds for a new grandstand and floodlights (\$45,000 total)
- Baseball game attendance 11,100

1949

State Minnesota Amateur Baseball Association State Tournament awarded to Detroit Lakes and held at Washington Ballpark – 10 days of baseball and total attendance of 28,564

195



1989

Lakes Area Builders Association made improvements to the restrooms and locker rooms

2008

Placed on the National Register of Historic Places

"Established in 1897 and improved in 1935-1937, the park is significant for the prominent role it played in the social history of Detroit Lakes and in the development of the city's summer tourism industry"

2021

Improvements are needed once again to restore this facility to its premier status and encourage its use for years to come.

"It's time again to plan and work on Improvements at the Ball Park"

Proposed Improvements

Ensure the grandstand facilities are ADA Compliant & construct new ADA Compliant restrooms

Replace and upgrade netting for fan and player safety

Install HVAC improvements for the press box and clubhouse



Upgrade grandstand exterior to celebrate the rich history of this landmark facility

Add fencing to ensure security of the facility

Remove storm water manholes in the outfield for player safety

Update storm water treatment on the facility to encourage proper field drainage

Modernize ball field lighting and restroom facilities to promote facility efficiency by reducing electricity use and promoting water conservation

Improve dugouts to enhance player safety and functionality



Installing turf infield improves player safety and allows for other events

Project Budget

This modest State investment will leverage local dollars to create a significant and impactful investment in a unique, historic icon of our Region and City. With a sizable amount of the local match already secured, the project would be ready for construction in 2023.

Washington Ballfield & Grandstand Renovation (FY 2023 only)

Funding Sources

State General Obligation Bonds	\$1,406,000
City Funds (already committed)	\$463,000
City Funds (pending)	\$400,000
Other Funding	<u>\$542,600</u>

Total Funding Sources

\$2,811,600

Funding Uses

Construction/Engineering/Design Fees	<u>\$2,811,600</u>
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Total Funding Uses

\$2,811,600

Why Fund This Project?

Washington Park is a focal point of the City's downtown by connecting the Washington Avenue business district to the City's Mile-Long Beach and Lakefront Business District. Locally, millions of dollars are being invested in the reconstruction of Washington Avenue, West Lake Drive, and the City Beach. Washington Park and City Park serve as anchors to this redevelopment as it enhances the visitor experience to the City. This investment will serve as a catalyst to make the park a regional destination, not just for baseball, but for a variety of events and activities.

Washington Park is a Regional asset as it is enjoyed by sports enthusiasts from around the area. In addition, special events that have been hosted, and that are anticipated to be hosted, in the venue will further draw from the surrounding area. Washington Park with its location in downtown and near the City Beach and historic classification stands out as a unique venue in the State. We humbly ask the State to help participate in the preservation of this historic, regional attraction so it can be enjoyed for future generations.

Let's play ball!

