



500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084  
troymi.gov

## CITY COUNCIL REPORT

Date: August 28, 2023

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Deputy City Manager  
Kurt Bovensiepe, Public Works Director  
Dennis Trantham, Facilities and Grounds Operations Manager

Subject: Cricket Field Update

---

The surveys completed through the 2020-2024 Parks and Recreation plan indicates that there is a desire for a full-size Cricket field. However, the desire represents a smaller percentage when compared to other recreational opportunities such as paved and rustic walking paths, splash pad, and updated playground equipment. The City of Troy has made significant progress meeting these higher priority desires and is preparing to meet some desired amenities that was represented by a smaller respondent group.

Raintree Park was originally selected as the Community Park to host the full-size Cricket field based on current restroom facilities, parking capacity, and limited disruption to other recreational opportunities. The current programs using the existing baseball field would have been moved to another field. The large outfield was once used as soccer fields but has not been programmed in many years. City Staff met with local Cricket Organizations and agreed that Raintree Park was a suitable location for a full-size Cricket field.

In partnership with Rep. Sharon MacDonell, the City of Troy applied for a state grant to construct a full-size Cricket field. The application was successful and \$900,000 was included in the State of Michigan's 2024 budget. In preparation for when funds become available the City's Parks Division and Recreation Department met with our local Cricket advocates to include ideas and best practices in creating a full-size Cricket field. Through these discussions it was recognized that although Raintree Park could support a full-size field it would require mitigation efforts to limit the amount of errant balls from going into the parking lot, abutting residential yards, and John R. Mitigation efforts would likely include tall netting to protect these areas. Recognizing this would be a drastic change for Raintree Park and what City Staff learned from recent public engagement sessions we began looking at other locations.

The north-west area of Boulton Park was considered in the early 2000's to host a full-size Cricket field. Some of the major concerns with this area was a large historic Oak tree would require removal for the field. Within the last couple years, the Oak tree had declined and has been removed. Now that the Oak tree is not a concern City Staff and the Cricket Community believe this is the best location to host a full-size Cricket field.

Once funding becomes available City Staff will engage an Engineering Consultant to begin designing the Cricket field. When funds are released we will also learn if there are any additional environmental assessment requirements or prevailing wages associated with the funds. City Staff's goal would be to design and engineer the necessary improvements to the park during winter 2023/24 and construct in



500 West Big Beaver  
Troy, MI 48084  
troymi.gov

## **CITY COUNCIL REPORT**

spring/summer 2024. We are hopeful to construct a field that could be certified by the International Cricket Council, which would be the first certified field in the State of Michigan and allow us to host international tournaments.