



*City of Foster City*

**ESTERO MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**  
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WEB SITE: <http://www.fostercity.org>

July 20, 2011

Dear Foster City Resident

On behalf of the City of Foster City and the Foster City Parks and Recreation Department, the purpose of my letter is to advise you of our planned park improvement project at Sea Cloud Park S-4. The City Council of Foster City has authorized funds for the installation of a synthetic surface soccer field at Sea Cloud Park. The Sea Cloud Park improvement is one component in what have been multiple installations of synthetic surface fields in Foster City including Sea Cloud and Catamaran Parks. The Department of Parks and Recreation believes that this significant improvement will have positive benefits to the neighborhood in not only improving the appearance of the park but the efficiencies that the department will gain in water savings, as well as maintenance.

The intent of this letter is also to provide an overview of the scope of work at Sea Cloud Park. The planned improvements specifically call for:

1. The installation of a synthetic surface soccer and baseball field.
2. Landscape improvements as developed by our landscape architect including the planting of trees and ground cover.
3. Installation of new park benches and picnic tables.

The improvements do not call for any lighting of the facility or walking path.

**Preliminary Project Time Line**

July through Sept. 2011	Park design
August 3, 2011, 6:30pm	Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
	City Council Chambers
	620 Foster City Blvd., Foster City, CA
	Public meeting to review design documents
October 2011	Authorization to submit Requests for Proposal/ City Council Meeting
January 2012	Award construction contract/City Council Meeting
February 2012	Project construction to start
September 2012	Project to be completed.

The Department of Parks and Recreation has also placed an information kiosk at the park site with site maps and additional information on the project.

If you have questions in regards to this project, you can contact me at (650) 286-3388 or [kmiller@fostercity.org](mailto:kmiller@fostercity.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin M. Miller", written in a cursive style.

Kevin M. Miller  
Director of Parks and Recreation

Attachments: Site Map  
FAQ's  
Project News Release



# NEWS

Contact: Kevin Miller  
(650) 286-3388  
kmiller@fostercity.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Improvements To Port Royal and Sea Cloud Parks Will Mean Increased Recreational Opportunities**

Foster City, CA, March 10, 2011 -- At its meeting on February 7, 2011, the City Council voted to appropriate funds for the installation of synthetic turf at two of the city's parks: Port Royal and Sea Cloud. At Port Royal, the plan includes installing a 2-lane synthetic walking track; at Sea Cloud, "turfing" the field designated as S-4 will mean that Foster City's signature complex will have two synthetic fields.

While both installations will have positive effects on the city's youth sports programs, does it make sense, at this time, for the city to make such a large capital investment? What benefits, if any, have residents already reaped from the installation of synthetic turf at Catamaran Park and on field S-3 at Sea Cloud? And what affect will these improvements have on adjacent residential areas?

First, the financing: The phrase "in this economy" could begin almost every sentence these days, particularly when speaking of public financing, so the Council's action needs to be viewed with the idea of "limited funding, limited choices" in mind. The total outlay from the city for both park projects will be almost \$3.2 million. The funding for both projects comes from designated funds that can only be utilized for specific projects or park improvements. The Sea Cloud Park project of \$1,536,700 will be reimbursed from the Community Development Agency Capital Improvement Project funds (these can only to be used for improvements in Project Area One, in which Sea Cloud Park is located).

The Port Royal Park Project of \$1,651,700 will be reimbursed from Park-in-Lieu fees which can only be utilized for Park Infrastructure and Development projects. The City expects \$4 million in Park-in-Lieu fees to be paid by the developers of the Pilgrim-Triton project by June 30, 2011.

The savings in water usage and maintenance pays off almost immediately. Synthetic fields do have to be maintained, just not as often nor as much as grass fields. This savings translates into having park maintenance performed in other parks in Foster City that have a greater need by allowing park workers to be deployed more efficiently. Also, the savings in water usage alone (estimated at 4 million gallons for 4 fields) is tangible evidence that selective installation of turf more than pays for itself when both systems are compared over anticipated life expectancies.

Finally, residents, especially around Port Royal Park, will see an increase in activity if only because more days of “playability” means more days of play. Many times, during extended periods of inclement weather, grass fields simply can’t be used, even though that use is properly scheduled. Early on, many Catamaran Park-area residents were understandably skeptical of what impact the turf installation would have on their neighborhood. Parks and Recreation Department staff members believe that those concerns have been positively addressed.

Some have expressed concern, but these improvements are NOT a precursor to the installation of lights at Port Royal, a neighborhood park. Any traffic and parking concerns will be addressed, and City staff are committed to making sure that residents who regularly take their small children and grandchildren to the park continue to feel safe.

*(Submitted on behalf of the Foster City Parks and Recreation Committee)*

# SYNTHETIC TURF

## F.A.Q'S

### **Q: What are the benefits of synthetic turf versus natural grass?**

- Providing more usable field time for Foster City residents.
- Eliminate costs of annual field refurbishment.
- An estimated savings of 2,000,000 gallons of water on an annual basis.
- Improving the appearance and safety of the remaining natural grass athletic fields in the city.
- Providing a safe environment for walkers at Port Royal Park.

### Sports

- Maximizes playing time
- Increases revenue generation potential
- Offers the most proven, durable and safest product in the industry
- Provides a consistent artificial turf surface for superior all-around performance for playability and safety

### **Q: How is this project being funded?**

- Funding will come from the City of Foster City's Capital Improvement Program; Grants from State and Federal agencies and donations from the City of Foster City Foundation.

### **Q: When will the project start and when will it be finished?**

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Park Design        | June-October 2011 |
| • Projects Start     | March 2012        |
| • Projects completed | September 2012    |

### **Q: Are either of the Synthetic fields going to have a walking track?**

- The Synthetic soccer field at Port Royal Park will have a perimeter walking track.

### **Q: Will the amount of play on the new synthetic surface be unlimited and unrestricted?**

- The amount of use that will take place on the synthetic fields will be managed by the Foster City Parks and Recreation Department. Proper management of use will help to insure longevity of the synthetic surface. We project a similar use to the current schedule now in place.

### **Q: Will there be lighting included in the construction of the synthetic fields for night time play?**

- Lighting will **not** be a component of the construction of the synthetic fields or walking track.

# Sea Cloud Park [S-4, B-3, B-4]

Soccer & Baseball Fields



Approximate Measurements = 270 ft. (90 Yds) Wide by 370 ft. (123 Yds.) Long = 99,900 Sq. Ft.