

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Budget and Finance

AGENDA ITEM: 7 – H

DATE: May 9-11, 2017

**SUBJECT: NSU Football Practice Field Construction and Athletic Field Renovations
Preliminary Facility Statement**

Northern State University requests approval of its Preliminary Facility Statement to construct a practice football field and renovate existing athletic fields. At the March 2017 meeting, the Board approved a maintenance and repair project of \$550,000 for the natural grass football practice field east of Jerde Hall. This location is currently being used as a women’s soccer practice field.

This request is a revision of the previously approved M&R project. The new plan expands the previously approved project to include the renovation of the competition soccer field and construct both the football practice field and soccer field using synthetic turf. These updates will allow the general student population access for intramurals and other recreational events. The space will also be used for an outdoor classroom for exercise science, wellness and education courses.

The existing football practice field is identified as the site for the new NSU Regional Science Education Center, thus the need to establish a new practice field location. The open space east of Jerde Hall, currently used by the soccer program, will be reconstructed as the site of the new practice football field.

In addition, the current competition soccer field will be upgraded to meet NCAA regulations. An option to include a small building for locker rooms and equipment storage as well as fan seating may be included in the project.

Funding for this project will come from a combination of local, private and HEFF funds. The development of the Facility Program Plan for the football field will be funded by local planning funds along with private dollars. The development of the Facility Program Plan for the soccer field will be funded with HEFF planning funds. If approved, a building committee representative should be appointed to oversee the project.

DRAFT MOTION 20170509_7-H: I move to approve NSU’s Preliminary Facility Statement to plan construction of a practice football field and renovation to the existing competition soccer field. A building committee representative should be appointed to oversee this project.

PRELIMINARY FACILITY STATEMENT
Athletic & Recreation Fields
Northern State University

Northern State University requests approval of this Preliminary Facility Statement to build a practice football field and renovate the existing fields used by the women's soccer team for practice and competition. NSU received approval at the March Board of Regents meeting to build a natural grass football practice field east of Jerde Hall on the field currently used as a practice field by the women's soccer team. This request is to expand the project approved in March to include the renovation of the competition soccer field and construct both the football practice field and the soccer field using synthetic turf. The fields will also be available for use by the general student population for intramurals and other recreational events and as an outdoor classroom for exercise science, wellness and education courses.

1. GENERAL PROGRAMMATIC NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

The existing football practice field has been identified as the site for the NSU Regional Science Education Center. Therefore, it is necessary to establish a new practice field in another location. The open space east of Jerde Hall is currently used by the soccer program. The proposed project will renovate the existing competition and practice soccer fields into synthetic turf fields, developing a multi-use facility that can be utilized by all students for athletic competitions, practices, intramurals and club sports. The space currently used as the practice soccer field will be the site of the new practice football field and the current competition soccer field will be upgraded to meet NCAA regulations. Fan seating as well as a small building that will include locker rooms and equipment storage may also be included in this project.

2. ANALYSIS OF CONSTITUENTS TO BE SERVED

In addition to meeting the needs of the football team and the women's soccer team, the renovated space will provide other students expanded options for outdoor activities. The fields will also be used by HPE classes, club sports, intramural activities, sports camps and the marching band. Existing outdoor opportunities are limited due to weather related field conditions and wear and tear on the natural grass fields. Synthetic turf fields will expand opportunities for outdoor activities for the entire student body.

3. ADDITIONAL SERVICES OFFERED

The renovation of the soccer facility on NSU's campus will make the competition soccer field compliant with NCAA regulations. It will also provide a turfed training area for football, club sports, intramurals, academic uses and other student activities. Natural grass fields are easily damaged when used during or after rain or snow events which limits the amount of use by the general student body. Field turf is easily cleared of snow, giving athletics, intramurals, club sports and student organizations opportunities during winter, early

spring and late fall that they currently do not have. Another benefit of a multi-use turf field in close proximity to NSU's campus are the expanded academic opportunities for exercise science, wellness courses, education majors and other fields of study.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE MASTER PLAN

The 2009 Campus Master Plan is currently being updated. This project is consistent with the goals of both the 2009 Master Plan and what will become the 2017 Campus Plan Update. The fields to be renovated already exist on the outer edge of campus just a short walk from academic buildings or residence halls with convenient access to the Barnett Center and the Barnett Center parking lot.

5. ANALYSIS OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT BASED ON THE FACILITIES UTILIZATION REPORT

Not applicable

6. LOCATION

The current soccer fields lie east of Jerde Hall on the north side of 14th Ave SE.

7. REALLOCATION OF OLD SPACE, IF ANY

The renovation of the existing soccer facility allows for the development of the Regional Science Education Center on the current practice football field.

8. PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCE

Private funds will be used for the construction of this athletic and recreational facility.

9. BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A FACILITY PROGRAM PLAN

The cost to develop the facility program plan for the football field will be funded with local planning funds and private dollars. The soccer field planning will be funded with HEFF planning funds.