

Martha's Vineyard Public Schools

*Excellence and Equity For All Children
Equal Opportunity Employer*

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December 12, 2020

Mr. Alex Elvin, General Planner
Martha's Vineyard Commission
PO Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Dear Alex,

We received your revised staff questions regarding MVRHS's Application for amended DRI #352. The following is a listing of your questions and our responses.

- 1. Please detail the total amount committed by the donor, any capital costs that the donated funds will not cover, whether the donated funds are in place and if they are subject to any contingencies.**

We have asked that a condition for approval be placed on this project that all construction costs be paid with private donations. This condition will alleviate any burden to our taxpayers relating to the construction costs.

- 2. Will the donors commit to longer-term funding to support the project?**

Please see our response to #1.

- 3. Are there ways to organize additional funding, including from MVRHS alumni?**

Yes, there are multiple fundraising opportunities available to us.

- 4. Could the community uses (youth groups and summer camps), estimated at 1,125 hours of use, be transferred to other Island fields to reduce usage on the MVRHS fields?**

Our high school hours of usage alone over burden the grass fields. Denying the community access to our fields does not solve our usage issues.

MVRHS has established policies supporting public access to our facilities whenever possible and takes pride in being a resource to our community. Denying youth sports access will not save the grass fields from the high school's hours of usage; a synthetic turf field will.

5 Relevant to financing, why did the prior Field Fund proposal to install natural turf not go forward? Are those issues still germane in light of the proposal?

The proposal did not go forward because it was terminated by The Field Fund on August 29, 2017 as indicated in their email to the Superintendent: "All previous offers, proposals or understandings of The Field Fund, Inc. are hereby revoked and withdrawn."

Our application to the MVC as approved by the MVRHS School Committee is for Phase One as designed by Huntress Associates. Relevant to financing (as stated in #1), we have asked that a condition for approval be placed on this project that all construction costs be paid with private donations.

6 How do we know future phases of the master plan will include only natural fields? The applicant needs to explain the longer-term plan.

The Athletic Field Master Plan, as approved by the MVRHS School Committee in 2019 recommends one (1) synthetic turf field. As a DRI, MVRHS is required to seek MVC approval for any future development. MVC has authority to approve or deny any such development.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Kirk
School Committee Chair
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School

Kris O'Brien
School Committee Representative to the Track and Fields Project
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School

Richie Smith, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent
Martha's Vineyard Public Schools