

# HOPKINTON HILLER ATHLETICS

## Update from the Athletic Fields SubCommittee

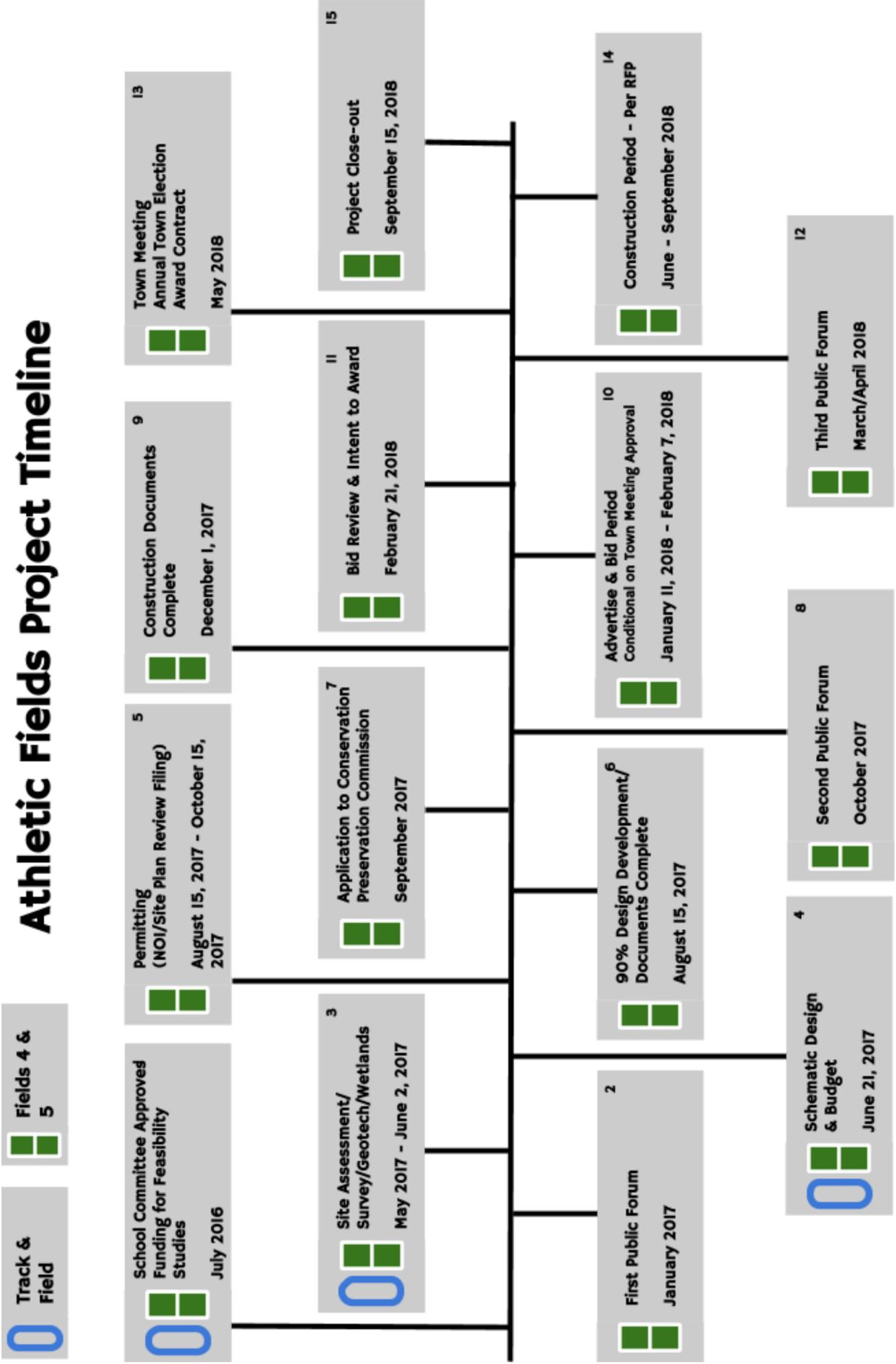
The Athletic Fields SubCommittee has been working since October 2016 to prepare a proposal for a phased installation of a synthetic turf field complex behind Hopkinton High School. After School Committee approval, design work for this project began in April 2017 with a goal of putting a shovel in the ground in June 2018 (subject to Town Meeting approval in May 2018). Phase I would include the installation of synthetic turf on Fields 4 & 5 (located immediately behind Field 3). Phase II would include the installation of synthetic turf on Field 3, track re-surfacing and expansion, and an amenities building, after the usable life of the track has expired. Please visit the School Committee website for information on the Athletic Fields Sub Committee meeting schedule, meeting minutes, and general updates on the proposal. <https://www.hopkinton.k12.ma.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=6159>

### Why does Hopkinton need turf fields?

- Increased availability of school athletic facilities for community use
- Expanded partnership with Parks and Recreation and local youth sports programs
- A necessity for athletic competition and adequate preparation
- Extension of seasonal field usage (March-December in comparison to mid-April through November)
- Solution to New England weather (Practice/compete on fields earlier in the Spring, allowing for competition on wet, rainy days; natural turf fields require cancellation in most cases)
- Flexibility in scheduling practices and games; opportunity for longer time slots, necessitated by increased numbers of student-athletes
- Ability to rest natural turf fields for proper maintenance
- Provide an equitable playing surface for our student-athletes from comparable youth and high school towns and athletic programs
  - Only 3 of 12 TVL teams do not have synthetic turf fields (Hopkinton, Millis, Norton)
- Provide continuity for youth players who are playing on synthetic turf and future collegiate athletes who will be playing on turf at the NCAA level
- Potential for revenue-generating opportunities through community and private use
- Pride in school, athletic, and community facilities

Thank you for your curiosity about and interest in this project. The goal of the Athletic Fields SubCommittee is to provide the school and community with the facilities that our students and residents need and deserve! **GO HILLERS!!**

# Athletic Fields Project Timeline



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q:** *Where would the synthetic turf field be installed?*

A: On fields 4 & 5 (Phase 1)

**Q:** *Why isn't field 3 being done first?*

A: There are a few more years of usable life left on the track surrounding the football field (Field 3). Fields 4 and 5 would provide the largest space, be accessible to the most teams, and could initially generate more revenue than Field 3. Once the track is ready for replacement, Phase 2 of the proposed project would include the installation of synthetic turf on Field 3 and a new 8-lane track.

**Q:** *Who could utilize Fields 4 & 5?*

A: High school and Middle School athletic teams, town athletic teams, community groups, private groups.

**Q:** *What teams would be able to utilize the field?*

A: Girls' Soccer, Boys' Soccer, Field Hockey, Girls' Lacrosse, Boys' Lacrosse, Softball, Baseball, Girls' Track (practice), Boys' Track (practice), Football (practice).

**Q:** *What would the cost be?*

A: Approximately \$3.5 million. The School Committee was awarded a \$1.7 million grant from CPC, and a community funding drive is underway, with a goal to raise another \$500,000. The remaining cost, approximately \$1.3 million, would be funded by a debt exclusion at Town Meeting and the annual election. The anticipated tax impact per average household value would be \$23/year for 10 years.

**Q:** *When would the anticipated completion date be?*

A: Early fall 2018.

**Q:** *What type of infill is the committee exploring?*

A: The Committee has selected an organic infill called Envirofill. Information on Envirofill can be found at the following website:

<https://usgreentech.com/infills/envirofill/>

**Q:** *Where is the life expectancy of the carpet/shock pad?*

A: Carpet 12-14 years; Shock Pad 25 years.

**Q:** *How would the schools/town plan for replacement costs?*

A: Revenue from field rentals would contribute to the cost of carpet replacement.

**Q:** *What are the next steps?*

A: The Sub-Committee will offer a public forum on April 11, 2018 at 7 pm in the High School Library. Annual Town Meeting will begin on May 7, 2018. Fundraising efforts are ongoing.

**Q:** *Where can I find more information?*

A: Please visit the Athletic Fields Sub Committee page on the Hopkinton Public Schools website, <https://www.hopkinton.k12.ma.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=6159>, follow Hopkinton Athletic Fields Sub Committee Facebook page, and follow @hopkintonfields on Twitter!