

Update on Essex Centre Sports Fields Project

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Council Resolution

Resolution: R25-07-325

That Council direct Administration to provide Council with a written update on the Essex Sport Fields project during the 2026 Town of Essex budget deliberations.

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Current Status

- Administration focused on turf development in 2025
- Grass is well established with the implementation of a watering source
- Administration will work on a phase in of using the fields with the local soccer organizations for 2026/2027
- **The longer we can wait for use, the better the turf can establish, but usable now**
- No known interruptions to existing soccer fields for 2026 season

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Phase in Plan

- Phase 1: Complete
 - Received \$750,000 in federal grant funding
 - Created six of the soccer fields (four senior and two junior)
 - Created a portion of parking lot 'B'
 - Completed some general site work and drainage
 - Added two storm water retention ponds
 - East access road off of Batten Side Road
 - Establish turf (ongoing)

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Phase in Plan

- Phase 2: Estimated at \$2,907,260
 - General site work (Grading, Drainage, Ball Diamond Earthwork, Seed/Mulch)
 - One multi-use ball diamond
 - Additional parking and main access roadway
 - Site services (Electrical, Sanitary, Water, Communications)

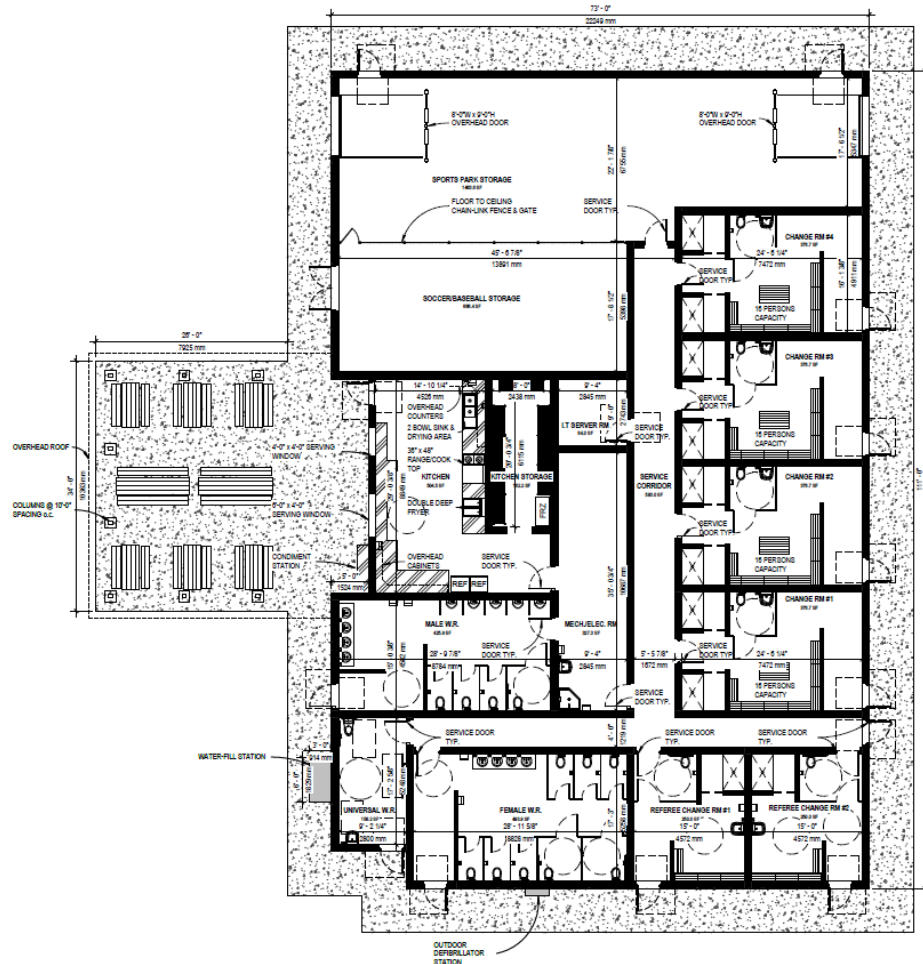
Note: Phases can be further broken down further depending on budgets.

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Phase in Plan

- Phase 3: \$2,700,000
 - Outbuilding for facility
 - Male washroom (5 urinals, four stalls, 4 sinks)
 - Female washroom (8 stalls, four sinks)
 - Universal washroom
 - Four change rooms
 - Two referee rooms
 - Concession
 - Overhang area for sitting outside of concession
 - Equipment storage for municipal use
 - Storage for minor soccer and minor baseball
 - Custodial room
 - Mechanical room

Essex Centre Sport Fields



Essex Centre Sport Fields

Phase in Plan

- Future Phases:
 - Balance of Sport Fields: \$3,250,000
 - Paving of Parking Lots and Trails: \$1,800,000
 - Other Site Amenities: \$500,000

Essex Centre Sport Fields

Financial

- Total anticipated cost: \$11,787,260
- The Phase-in plan will require funding in the form of Development Charges, Grant Funding, Parkland Reserve as the balances come available. Taxation increases can also be considered. This phase in will be presented annually to Council during Budget Deliberations
- 2026 has no project allocation given the fields are not yet in use and funding and resources for Phase 2 is not available.
- Administration also has \$100,000 allocated as a carry-forward project to purchase site specific amenities for soccer's upcoming use, which includes
 - Goals
 - Nets
 - Benches
 - Parking delineations

How can the Town fund Capital (page 21)

Asset Status	Asset Management Reserve	Grant Funding	Other Reserve	Development Charge Reserve (if related to growth)	Funded from Taxation
New	NO	YES	YES	MAYBE	YES
Replacement	YES 100% of Cost	YES	YES	NO	YES
Upgrade	YES 50% of Cost	YES	YES	MAYBE	YES

Project Name: Playground in New Subdivision **Asset Status?** NEW **Cost** \$300,000

FUNDING OPTIONS with no tax impact= GRANT – OTHER – DC?

If not fully funded from above then

FUNDING OPTIONS with tax impact = Tax Increase



Next Steps:

- Arrange a one-one-one with Directors/Treasurer.
- Next Meeting Dates:
 - Monday, December 8th, 2025 (1pm-8pm)
 - Tuesday, December 9th, 2025 (12pm-4pm)