

# Moana Springs Recreational Sports Complex

## Proposal for expansions of the existing fields

July 31, 2017



It's hard to imagine that five years ago we started the Moana Spring Recreational Complex.

April 2012 then Councilmember Jessica Sferrazza determined the old Moana baseball fields needed to be replaced. Great Basin Youth Soccer League along with the then city council embarked on this project. In a relatively short period of time \$238,000 was raised to transform the old run down baseball into 170,000 square feet of soccer fields.

The accomplishments over the last 5 years or 10 seasons;

- ❖ 5,000 youth games in 10 seasons, 10,000 teams averaging 10 per team, 100,000 players, assuming 2.5 adults per game that means 250,000 adults totaling 350,000 people enjoying the fields.
- ❖ University of Nevada Women Soccer team has hosted 7 games there and to this date they are undefeated at Moana. They have beat St Mary College, Sacramento State, University of Colorado-Denver and . The record attendance of 1,488 watched the Sacramento State game. Over 7,000 people have attended these games.
- ❖ We have hosted numerous Olympic Development Program training sessions at the complex.
- ❖ Our TOPSoccer program is using the field for games and practices. This program identifies kids with special needs, a first of this kind in Nevada.
- ❖ During the summer we average two youth summer camps, attendance 150 per camp. Our vendor uses young college soccer players from Scotland, England and Wales. These kids travel to the US during their summer break and often stay with the kids in their houses. An educational opportunity for all.
- ❖ Our USL pro soccer team Reno1868FC uses the fields for their practices. They are sharing the financial cost and contributing to upgrades at the field.
- ❖ Field has been used for training of teams participating in regional or national championships. We have two teams that have won the US Youth President Cup National Title.
- ❖ We have hosted a number of camps for kids and coaches from professional players.
- ❖ RYSA and GBYSL was determined to save as much as possible from the original baseball fields, the Moana Arch, original headstone, ticket office and historical market have been preserved. Other items can be found at the Red Hut Restaurant down the street. The original name Moana Springs was used to rename the complex.
- ❖ The old ticket office had become a "crack/drug house". Residents told us at night the building was teeming with illegal drugs activity and people were living in the building. When GBYSL moved in the garbage was overwhelming, needles all over the building, beer bottles and other unmentionable items were found inside. It was so bad a professional cleaner was hired, two large trailers of garbage and other items were removed from the building. The weeds outside the building took up an additional three trailers. This removal cost over \$3,000.
- ❖ Players Club/ISC is the main club using the field for practice Monday through Friday, this club has over 70% economically challenged players, often needing scholarships. We have been able to increase our Hispanic percentage of players.
- ❖ Neighbors from behind the facility have thanked us a number of time, fires lite there, drug activity, gang activity were prevalent there, and this is no longer true.

## **Ongoing maintenance**

As per the original agreement with the City of Reno each partner was responsible for maintenance of their part of the facility. The soccer fields are the responsibility of GBYSL, mowing, fertilization, aeration, sprinkler maintenance and simple repairs. This year spent \$6,000 for an irrigation booster pump. Cost for annual maintenance is approximately \$21,000. No tax payer dollars are used for the maintenance of the fields.

## **Economic Impact**

The impact has been huge not only financially but also to overall quality of life in the neighborhood. Every week GBYSL has food trucks, and other such vendors. Often the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kiwanis, Rotary, Washoe County Library, and other groups are there to sell goods or promote their organizations.

## **Improved neighborhood**

5 years ago the place was surrounded by an ugly green fence, dead grass inside the park, and more.

## **Original Master plan**

In 2012 the three partners, Great Basin Youth Soccer League, Reno Continental Little League and Sierra Nevada Aquatics Association decided on a master plan. Each stakeholder was responsible for their finishing their part of the master plan.

## **Proposal**

Great Basin Youth Soccer League would like permission to move forward and expand fields into the old swimming area. We would keep the existing grass area and trees. In addition we would assume the maintenance duties of that area and expand the picnic benches for the park. We will keep the George Hamilton playground area and fix the swings and replace the bark.

## **Cost to expand**

- Excavation and leveling field area
- Top soil, sod and installation
- Removal of geothermal tanks and pump
- Fencing, matching wrought iron along Moana Lane

## **Potential Donors**

- GBYSL-\$25,000-Confirmed
- Atlantis
- Peppermill
- Western Nevada Supply- Sprinklers/irrigation
- Nevada Youth Soccer Association
- Reno1868FC

We are asking for \$150,000 to finish this great project.

<https://youtu.be/zorViP1L0>

