



# Staff/Partners

# PROJECT LEAD

Tom Schuster
Parks Supervisor
Parks & Recreation Dept.

# **PARTNERS**

DCTC ISD 196 Irish Sports Dome

# **RECREATION & OPEN SPACE**

# **Athletic Stadium Turf Options**

There is a growing demand for athletic fields in Rosemount. As new facilities are planned there is a question whether to build natural turf or synthetic turf fields. Natural turf fields cost less initially but require a higher level of maintenance: ongoing and regular irrigation, fertilization, and pest control. Natural turf fields can easily be damaged by play during inclement weather and need periodic "rest" or recovery time between uses. Synthetic turf fields cost much more initially but never require mowing, irrigation, or pest control. Synthetic turf fields allow for and are not damaged by use in inclement weather and can support many more games/practices per year without needing recovery time. Neither type of sport surfacing lasts forever and so must be replaced periodically.

### **Questions / Issues:**

- What are the cost differences between the various natural or synthetic turf options?
- What are the benefits and drawbacks to each?
- What is the life-cycle cost of synthetic turf; from production to disposal?

#### **Deliverables:**

- Provide cost benefit analysis of each of these turf systems.
- Suggest how many uses each surface can support per year and at what cost per use.

#### Sustainability:

This project provides sustainable economic and environmental impacts because it would provide a cost benefit analysis of natural versus synthetic turf systems and their impact on the environment. This project is relevant to the City because it fulfills the 2013-2014 City Council's goals to explore partnerships and create well designed and diverse public spaces. This project would also implement the Comprehensive Plan goal to preserve natural resources and opens space within the community.

