Welcome

• Why a Master Plan?
• History of the Property
• Process
• Plans to Date
• Community Participation
• Conclusion
• Over the past 30+ years, the Park District has performed “band-aid” improvements without an overall goal or long-term plan.

• While functional, the property has not been improved and remains in almost the same condition it was in the 80’s and 90’s
For the District to have a working document which provides a template identifying the most efficient usage and layout of athletic fields, offering immediate improvements, while providing a long-term conceptual vision.
• In 1966, 25 acres of land was purchased from School District #87 for $35,000.

• Originally named North Park, in 1973 it was renamed Ackerman Park in memory of John Davis Ackerman, a son-in-law of Deacon Winslow Churchill whose home and farm were located in this area.
In 1974, additional acreage was purchased for a total of 56 acres.

Since 1985 additional lots adjacent to Ackerman Park have been purchased for a total of 59 acres.

In 1980 field lights were installed at Ackerman.
History

- In the early 1990’s major renovations to Ackerman Park included installation of the hub, which included four (4) softball fields, and an irrigation system for the park, and lighting.

- In 1996 batting cages were installed at the park.
History

• In 1998 additional backstops were added to create additional softball fields.

• In 2007 the Park District purchased three (3) properties on Lenox Road, and a fourth house was purchased in May 2008.
• The construction of Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center began in October 2008, with the grand opening in January 2010.

• Ackerman Park community playground was installed in the spring of 2010.

• Ackerman Woods trail and no-mow zone areas were established in 2012.
• Developed Request for Proposal

• Received fifteen (15) applications

• Ranked and interviewed top candidates

• Selected Norris Design, a national landscape architectural firm with a Glen Ellyn office
  – Significant experience with sports and athletic complexes
Norris Design and team has conducted site visits, met often with staff, presented at a Park District Board meeting and received comments, met with main user groups of Ackerman Park including Lakers, Phillies, and Glen Ellyn house league soccer.
Process

- Presented 50% completed plan to Park Board at June 15, 2013 Board Meeting.

- Public meeting to be conducted by the Park District.

- Present 85% completed plan to the Park Board in January, 2014.

- Present final plans to Park Board in February, 2014.
Site Inventory

- Eight (8) Softball Fields
- Soccer Fields (up to 18)
- Ackerman SFC
- Parking Lot & Roadway
- ComEd Easement
- Lenox Road Property
- Ackerman Woods
- Two Concession Buildings with Restrooms
- Natural Areas and Wetlands
- Adjacent Property
  - Great Western Trail
  - Parkview Church
  - Forest Preserve
- Softball Batting Cages
- Playground
Ackerman Serves:

- Home for Lakers youth travel soccer (30+ teams)
- Hosts Saturday recreational House League soccer, serving nearly 1,000 players
- Phillies Travel Softball
- Glen Ellyn youth house league softball
Ackerman Serves:

- Adult softball
- Glenbard West High School lower-level softball and soccer
- Soccer and softball tournaments
- Various summer camps and special events
## Strengths vs. Weaknesses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65 acres of open space</td>
<td>Difficult to control usage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current usage</td>
<td>Signage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parking</td>
<td>Antiquated lighting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to major road</td>
<td>Poor quality soil/turf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secluded/Buffered</td>
<td>Drainage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjoining properties</td>
<td>Scheduling and overuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong athletic organizations</td>
<td>Lack of connectivity both internally and externally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to water sources</td>
<td>Not pedestrian friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball Hub</td>
<td>Lack of irrigation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Opportunities vs. Threats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities</th>
<th>Threats</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Irrigation</td>
<td>• Funding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Synthetic turf fields</td>
<td>• Overuse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Updated lighting</td>
<td>• Sports trends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improved drainage</td>
<td>• Wetlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Field control</td>
<td>• ComEd easement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trail system</td>
<td>• Stormwater responsibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Indoor pool</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Lenox Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plans to Date

• Current usage analysis
• Overall plan
• Overall plan with the addition of an indoor aquatic center at Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center
ACKERMAN PARK
FACILITY FIELD USAGE STUDY - SPRING LAYOUT
NOVEMBER 2013

FIELD USAGE - SPRING LAYOUT

FIELD USAGE - HOURS

- 0.001 - 100
- 100.1 - 200
- 200.1 - 300
- 300.1 - 450
- 400.1 - 500
- 500.1 - 800
- 800.1 - 1,000
- 1,001 - 1,182
New Field Layouts
Softball Enlargement
Southern Portion of Lower Ackerman
Layout With Indoor Aquatics Facility
An Indoor Aquatics Feasibility Study regarding the possibility of constructing and operating an indoor pool in Glen Ellyn is being conducted.

The study is funded by the Glen Ellyn Aquatics Initiative (GEAI), a collaboration of Glen Ellyn community members who have come together with a shared vision to add an indoor aquatic center to existing recreation options within Glen Ellyn.
Indoor Aquatics Center

• One possible location being considered is an addition to the Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center.

• A public forum regarding an indoor pool will be held in early 2014 with completion of the study by late winter.
The Glen Ellyn Park District is extremely cautious and conservative about the possibility of constructing a pool; they do recognize the benefits of an aquatic center and willingness and dedication of the GEAI.

The Park District will await the outcome of the study which will determine location, programs, construction budget, operational costs, and then objectively evaluate the feasibility of an indoor aquatic center within Glen Ellyn.
Recommendations & Outcomes

- Picnic shelter(s) on upper and lower Ackerman

- Trails connecting entire park with connection to the Great Western Trail, Ackerman Woods, Lenox Road, and Churchill Woods

- Improved and relocated lighting on lower soccer fields (lighting currently exists there already)
Recommmendations & Outcomes

• Outdoor exercise stations along trail

• Create accessible restrooms and concessions from exterior to serve upper Ackerman (if an addition was made to Ackerman Sports & Fitness Center)

• Create additional no-mow zones
Recommendations & Outcomes

• Bike path and/or lanes into park

• Lenox Road
  – Athletic field
  – Natural areas
  – Dog park
  – Garden plots
  – Other
• Remove two (2) softball fields
• Replace athletic lighting
• Install two (2) synthetic turf fields
Development Phases
Phase 1 (North Lower Ackerman)
$3,000,000 - $3,300,000
Includes: demo, turf fields, lighting, goalie practice areas, irrigation, new parking lot, trails, signage, connection to GWT access, shelter, bike station

Phase 2 (Middle Lower Ackerman)
$1,350,000 - $1,600,000
Includes: demo, 2 new adult softball fields, lighting, irrigation, trails, signage, bike station

Phase 3 (South Lower Ackerman)
$725,000-$850,000
Includes: softball field core renovation
Phase IV (Upper Ackerman Game Field Condition)
$1,450,000 - $1,600,000
Includes: regraded game fields, drainage, irrigation, sports turf seed, trails, workout stations, restroom, shelter, signage, bike station

OR

Phase IV (Upper Ackerman Limited Improvements)
$300,000 - $400,000
Includes: trails, workout stations, restroom, shelter, bike station
If you would like, please fill out comment cards located at the back table.
Thank You