

ANC 3/4G FIELD TASK FORCE COMMUNITY UPDATE #9

On Tuesday evening, December 5, 2023 from 7:01 to 7:59 PM, the ANC 3/4G Field Task Force held our ninth public meeting via Zoom. Below is a quick summary of the meeting and the link and passcode to watch the Zoom recording of the full meeting is pasted below. We are in the process of posting the recording and this update to our ANC Field Task Force website which can be found at

https://anc3g.org/task_forces/maret-school-ecc-sports-field/maret-school-ecc-sports-field-project-task-force/

RECORDING OF 12/5 MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/nmFYwP8rbn-7xJfIRunYANGF-tm_1WCoc_gy_NiB97o3sxHEpJ0vLIgdzYBw-E1_0rmbWiBjj87DYJHq

Passcode: 7\$O4V4jv

The 12/5 meeting was called to order by Task Force Co-Chair Jenny Backus at 7:02 PM. All six of the Task Force members were in attendance including Co-Chair Mike Osborne, At Large Member Marek Gootman, ANC 3/4G-01 Commissioner & ANC Commission Chair Lisa Gore. ANC 3/4G-02 Commissioner Bruce Sherman, ANC 3/4G-03 Commissioner Jim Nash. ANC 3/4 G-06 Commissioner Peter Gosselin was also present. In addition, non-voting Task Force members Trey Holloway from Maret, Stephanie Nash from the ECC, and Johnny Seikaly from MCN were in attendance. Maret Head of School Dennis Bisgaard and ECC Board Chair Bill Simons also joined the meeting.

There were no RSVPs to the meeting via the public RSVP form which was posted on the listserv but between 8-10 community members joined the Zoom throughout the meeting. There were no questions from the Community submitted via chat or from the RSVP form.

MEETING HEADLINES

- **Maret has received their construction permits and gave a detailed update of their next steps for the field which can be found [here](#).** They reviewed their permits, their stormwater management plan, their tentative construction timeline, where they were in the process of turf selection and their plans for community notification and outreach.
- Site preparation work will begin on the site in December (fencing and some pickup trucks on the site). Earth movers and the presence of larger equipment on the site are scheduled for January pending weather. The goal is to have the majority of the project completed by August of 2024.
- Maret has received their Public Space Permit #416763 and their Building Permit #BCIV2300110.
- In terms of stormwater management, Maret reminded the ANC and the Task Force that they committed to designing for a 25 year storm, which is higher than the current DC standard of designing for a 15 year flood. They shared a stormwater management map featuring a large water detention pit at the southeast lower end of the field designed to help capture water as it flows from the northwest of the field down to the southeast. They are placing the stormwater detention pit in this location because they're going to take advantage of the natural slope of the site and the field will actually be graded in that direction. The detention pit has four feet of washed stone. It will collect water and is designed to drip it out over a certain time period into the city's stormwater facility. The Maret engineer basically designed this detention pit to be about 50% larger than it otherwise would have been in order to capture and detain more water and slow the flow of that water into the city's system.
- Maret also shared a draft month-by-month schedule for activity on the field with a caveat that things

could shift due to weather, availability of materials, etc. They said they would keep the timeline updated as part of their regular reporting to the Task Force and, when they had an idea of when they're going to be working close to property lines, homeowners in those areas will receive a heads-up in advance.

- December 2023 – Site Preparation
- January 2024 – Earthwork
- February/March 2024 – Underground Site Utilities and Retaining Walls
- May 2024 – Turf Installation
- July 2024 – Fixture Installation
- Early August 2024 – Substantial Completion
- Late August 2024 – Landscaping Installation

- Maret also updated the Task Force about where they were in the Turf selection process. They stressed how they put the health and safety of their students first and foremost when planning the field and are researching and evaluating the latest and safest turf materials for both the turf carpet and the infill of the turf as well as the sustainability/end life of the product.
- Maret has not 100% landed on which product they're going to use yet for the field surface. There are two companies left that they are vetting, [Shaw Sports Turf](#), who does a lot of work with DC Public Schools, and [Field Turf](#), who does a lot of work with Montgomery County Schools. They are getting close to making a decision. [Brofkcill infill](#) is the Pinewood Turf infill that Maret is evaluating and Natural Play from Shaw Sports is the other infill they are considering.
- Commissioners Gore and Sherman flagged that there were lots of questions/concerns in the community about the turf field and the chemicals used in turf and hoped to have it be a topic of a future meeting early in 2024. Maret said they would be happy to share information about the product they end up selecting and how they did their assessment with the community but also said they weren't qualified to lead a scientific discussion around the topic of turf and chemicals. Commissioner Gore suggested inviting DC's Department of Environment and other city officials to join a future meeting on this topic. Other Task Force members pointed out that there were turf fields currently located in both ANC 3-4G at St. Johns College High School, Alice Deal Middle School, and other locations in or directly adjacent to our ANC and it is important to make sure we hear from those voices as well. Maret's turf field is not the first in the neighborhood. The Task Force will work with the ANC and Maret on how best to organize a meeting on this topic and present information to the community going forward.
- Finally Maret discussed their plans for community outreach going forward via their biweekly Update Reports, reports to the Task Force, and individual heads-up by Johnny Seikaly, their community rep from the construction team, for adjacent neighbors when work was going to be done on the field near their homes.
- Maret and the Construction Team asked for neighbors to continue using the ANC Field Task Force email ancfieldtf@gmail.com and the [ANC Task Force Complaint/Question](#) form to raise questions and concerns so questions could be tracked and shared for transparency.
- Task Force members stressed the importance of timely, transparent notification of upcoming work on the field both to the Task Force and to neighbors whose homes might be near where work was going to happen. Commissioner Gore also stressed the importance of all Task Force members including Maret, the ECC and the individual Commissioners both on and off the Task Force sharing meeting notifications, updates and reports with their email lists and constituents.
- Maret's new Head of School Dennis Bisgaard introduced himself to the Task Force. He opened the Maret presentation by saying that the school was excited to be in the Chevy Chase DC neighborhood

and to bring the field at ECC online. He emphasized that, just like they've done in Woodley Park since 1950, Maret wants to be good neighbors here in Chevy Chase DC.

- The meeting ended at 7:59 PM.

NEXT FIELD TASK FORCE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR Wednesday, January 10 at 7:00 PM.

[You can RSVP for the 1/10/24 meeting here](#) and we will notify you if there is a change to the meeting time.

The Task Force, an all-volunteer organization, works closely and transparently on behalf of the community and is committed to posting meeting times and materials as quickly as possible to the best of their ability on neighborhood social media channels. Below please find some important information about the Task Force.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns.

Mike Osborne & Jenny Backus, Task Force Co-Chairs, on behalf of the Task Force

HOW TO CONTACT US:

- Task Force email address - ancfieldtf@gmail.com
- [Task Force webpage](#) on the ANC 3/4G website - https://anc3g.org/task_forces/maret-school-ecc-sports-field/maret-school-ecc-sports-field-project-task-force/
- [ANC 3/4G Field Construction Task Force Community Question/Complaint Form](#)

TASK FORCE MEETING SCHEDULE:

- **Our next public Task Force meeting is scheduled to occur via Zoom on Wednesday, January 10 2024 at 7:00 PM EST. [Please RSVP here.](#)**

We intend to release a list of our 2024 meeting times at this meeting.

DRAFT AGENDA FOR JANUARY 10, 2024 TASK FORCE MEETING:

- Welcome
- Construction update from Maret/ECC/GC
- Questions/Comments from the Task Force and the ANC Commissioners
- Questions/Comments/Complaints from the Public

(Please note this agenda is the same for every Task Force meeting.)

IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Maret and MCN release Progress Reports about the Field. You can find the Progress Reports posted on Maret's ECC Construction Website. Here is the link to the web page

<https://www.maret.org/athletics/proposed-new-fields-at-ecc/construction>

These Progress Reports also are posted to the Chevy Chase listserv and other neighborhood social media channels. Each Progress Report includes a look back, a look forward, and pictures of activity that has

happened to date.

[The BZA issued their final written order](#) for the Maret ECC field project on April 12, 2023.

The ANC created a [dedicated page on its own website for the Task Force](#).

https://anc3g.org/task_forces/maret-school-ecc-sports-field/maret-school-ecc-sports-field-project-task-force/Maret_Athletic_Facilities_Project_Website -

<https://www.maret.org/athletics/proposed-new-fields-at-ecc/construction> is Maret's website dedicated to the project and is designed to provide updated information about the construction of the project to the community. It includes maps, timelines, and contact information for Maret's Construction Manager. Maret is mandated by the MOU to post updates to this site and the Task Force will be monitoring the site to ensure up-to-date info is being provided. Maret will post their latest [Progress Reports](#) in the calendar section.

The MOU signed by the ANC and Maret is linked to the [Maret webpage](#). The MOU contains a detailed explanation of what the project is and is not and also includes important information about the use of the field once construction is completed. here's the link to the MOU through the ANC website:

<https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ANC-34G-Resolution-re-Maret-BZA-Case-No.-20643-2-28-22-FINAL.pdf>

WHERE YOU CAN FIND FIELD TASK FORCE UPDATES

[ANC 3/4G Website on the ANC Field Task Force Page](#)

[Maret Athletic Facilities Project Page](#)

OUR OPERATING PRINCIPLES:

- The Task Force is designed to get questions and concerns from the community about the construction of the new field addressed quickly and efficiently by Maret/ECC/General Contractor (GC).
- The Task Force will conduct our work in a transparent manner with a focus on respectful listening and speaking.
- Working with the ECC, Maret, and the GC, we will provide factual information to the community quickly and transparently and work to ensure clear lines of communication between all parties involved.
- Through meetings of the Task Force and regular updates, we will keep the community apprised of how the work is going, what's coming next, and what, if any, concerns have been raised and how they are being addressed.

WHAT WE WILL BE DOING:

- Setting a regular briefing and public meeting schedule.
- Sharing accurate information about the project with the community on a timely basis.
- Ensuring citizen complaints are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.
- Holding Maret/ECC/GC accountable.