



# Memorial Field Master Plan 2024



# Memorial Field Master Plan

## City and School District Collaboration

- In June 2023, the City of Concord and Concord School District leadership agreed to explore opportunities to work together on needed improvements at the Memorial Field Complex. The cost of this phase of the project is being equally shared
- First Public meeting was held September 19, 2023, second meeting held February 22, 2024
- Student Focus Groups with Rundlett Middle School and Concord High School Students were held in November 2023

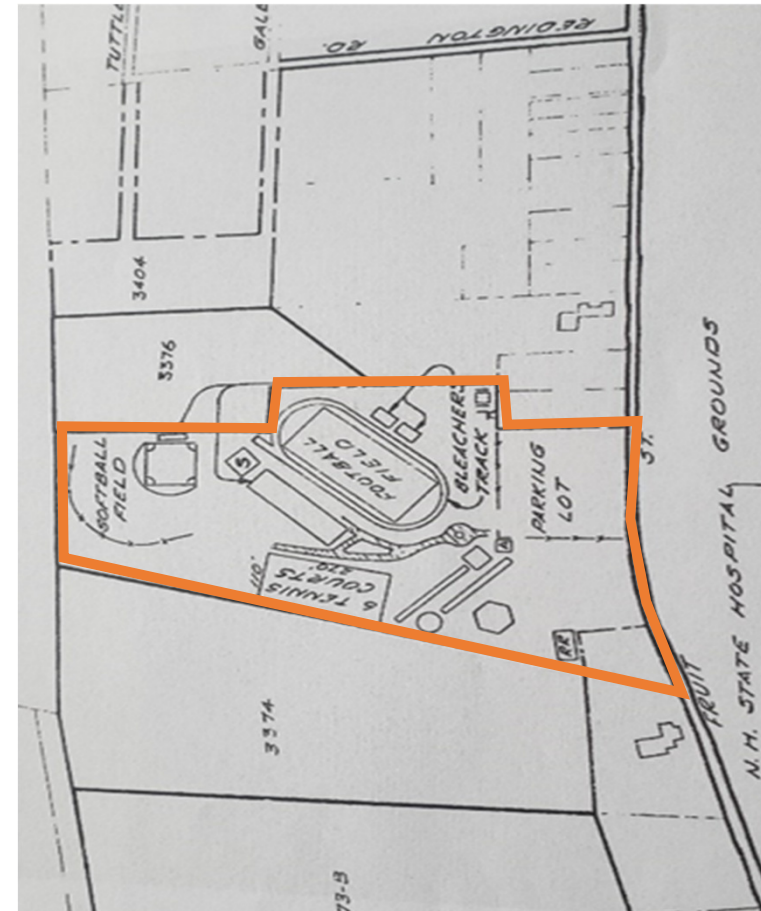
### Project Team

City of Concord  
Concord School District  
VHB  
Huntress Sports

# History of Memorial Field

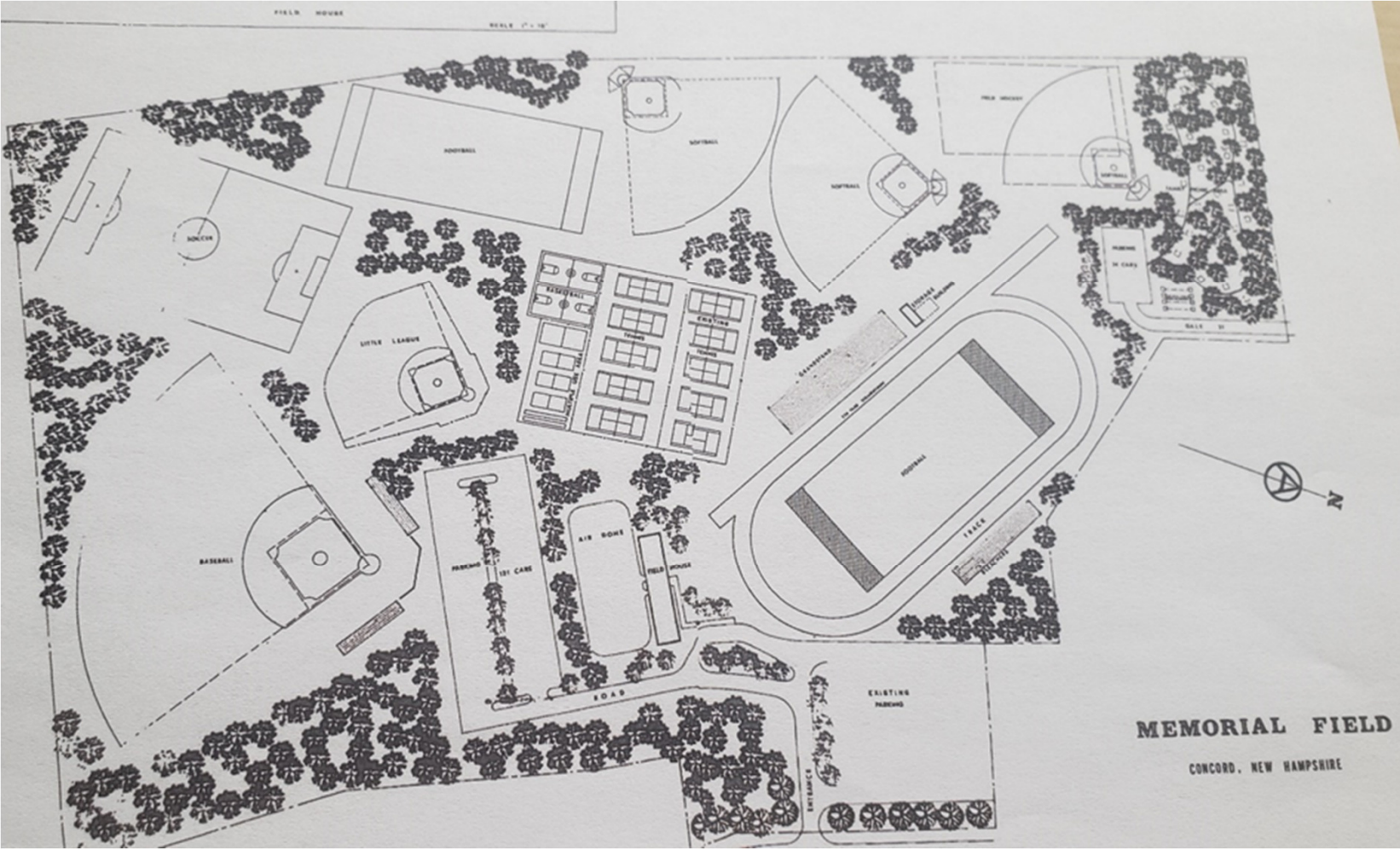
- 1926** City Park created when two tracts of land were conveyed to the City by Allen Hollis. Original facilities included six clay tennis courts, a cinder track, football field and softball field
- 1933** City installed the first grandstands on the football field
- 1936** Baseball field opened
- 1945** First night football game was held (with portable lights)
- 1947** Permanent athletic field lights were install for the football field
- 1971** City Council funded a Master Plan to look at the expanding needs of outdoor recreation in the community

Additional land was acquired around this same time to meet the expanding needs. The State of NH deeded 9.5 acres for the expressed purpose of expansion of the city's athletic facilities and another 12.3 acres was purchased with the help of Land and Water Conservation Grant and City funds.





# History of Memorial Field – 1971 Master Plan





# Memorial Field Complex Today

- 36-acre park
- 2 football fields
- Track
- Baseball field
- 2 Softball Fields
- Little League Field
- 2 Soccer/Lacrosse Fields
- 10 Tennis Courts
- 2 Basketball Courts
- Room to play









# Recent Investments

- Over the past 10 years the City has invested almost \$800,000
  - Improved the 10 tennis courts
  - Baseball field press box
  - Funding of Engineering study for the baseball and football field bleachers.
- In the years ahead, the Complex will require significant investment; this Master Plan is needed to identify next steps





# Issues

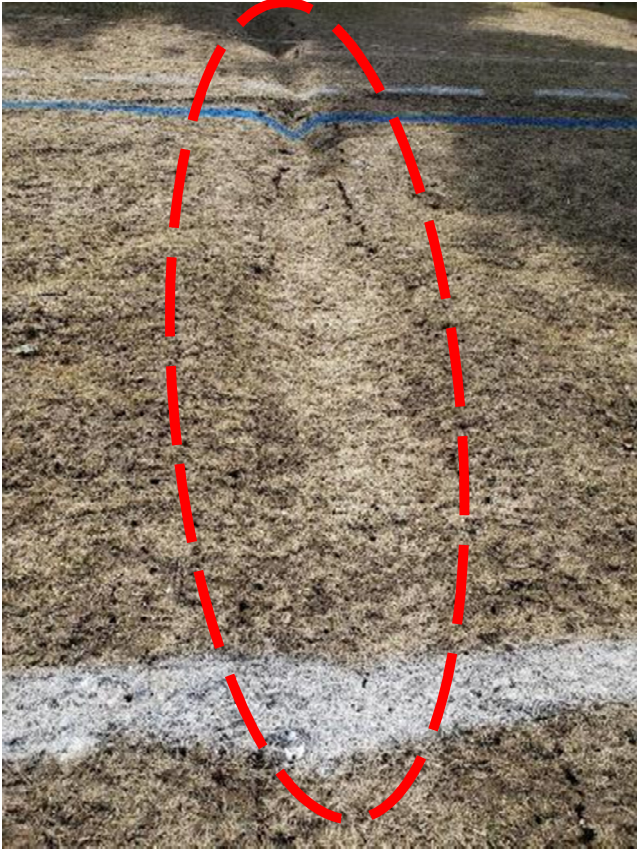
The obvious: 1970s drainage system has failed





# Issues

The general area of the 1970s expansion.



Frost Issues: April 5, 2019

# Current limitations

- The 1970's complex did not anticipate the sports of today
  - The two football fields cannot support regulation soccer or lacrosse fields
  - No onsite field hockey field
  - The main field cannot be used when track is in use for track meets
- Track needs to be replaced
- Bleachers need to be replaced
  - How many spectators should they hold?
- Should Complex have artificial turf field?
  - If so, which sport fields and location within the complex
  - Overuse of some of the grass fields, limits on resting fields
- Parking challenges
- ADA Challenges



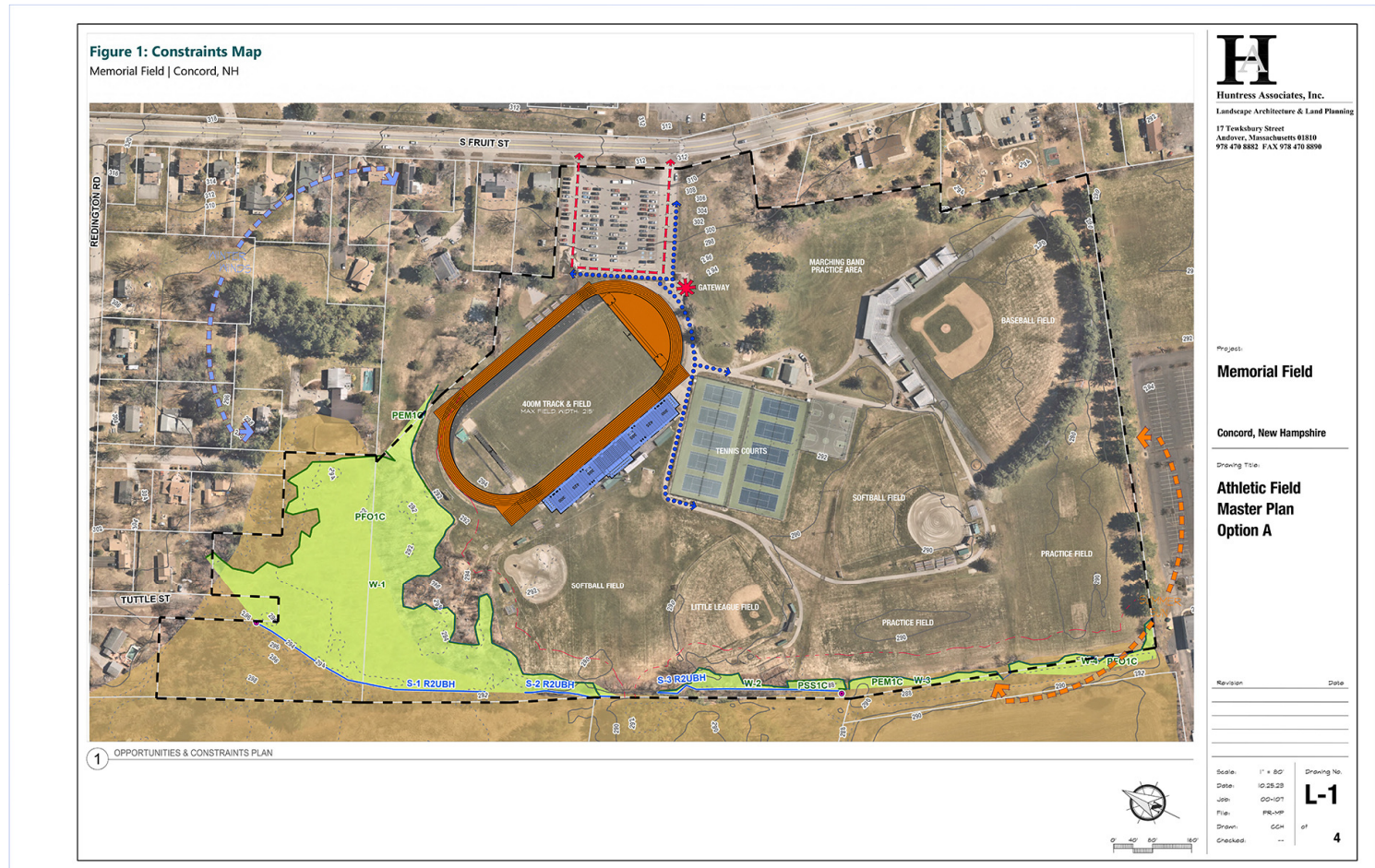
# Community & Student Listening Sessions

## What we heard...

- \* Address drainage issues
- \* Improve field lights
- \* Replace all aging bleachers
- \* More Parking
- \* Increase accessibility
- \* Replace track with field
- \* Keep all current uses plus bring Field Hockey to complex
- \* Add athletic field outside of the track for concurrent use
- \* Add locker rooms and updated bathroom facilities
- \* Keep/improve walking trails and cross-country ski trails
- \* Add artificial turf field (no consensus)

# Site Constraints

- Property Limits
- Natural Resource Areas
  - Wetlands
  - Streams
- Buffer Zones
- Topography
- High Groundwater
- Hydric Soils
- A lot of activity in tight area



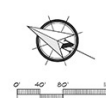


# Looked at several layout options

**Figure 1: Constraints Map**  
Memorial Field | Concord, NH



1 OPPORTUNITIES & CONSTRAINTS PLAN



**HA**  
**Huntress Associates, Inc.**  
 Landscape Architecture & Land Planning  
 17 Tewksbury Street  
 Andover, Massachusetts 01810  
 978-478-8882 FAX 978-478-8090

Project:  
**Memorial Field**  
 Concord, New Hampshire  
 Drawing Title:  
**Athletic Field  
 Master Plan  
 Option B**

Revision	Date

Scale: 1" = 80'  
 Date: 02.23.23  
 Job: 00-107  
 File: 00-107  
 Drawn: CCA  
 Checked: ...  
 Drawing No. **L-2**  
 of 4



# Looked at several layout options

**Figure 1: Constraints Map**  
Memorial Field | Concord, NH



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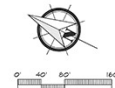
Project:  
**Memorial Field**

Concord, New Hampshire

Drawing Title:  
**Athletic Field  
Master Plan  
Option B-2**

Revision \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Date: 10.25.23  
Job: 00-107  
File: PSL-NH  
Drawn: ECH  
Checked: ---  
Drawing No. **L-2**  
of 4





# Looked at several layout options

**Figure 1: Constraints Map**  
Memorial Field | Concord, NH



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978 470 8882 FAX 978 470 8890

Project:  
**Memorial Field**

Concord, New Hampshire

Drawing Title:  
**Athletic Field  
Master Plan  
Option D**

Revision \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Scale: 1" = 80'  
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Job: 00-107  
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Drawn: GCH  
Checked: \_\_\_\_\_

Drawing No.  
**L-4**  
of  
**4**





# Looked at several layout options

**Figure 1: Constraints Map**  
Memorial Field | Concord, NH



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Landscape Architecture & Land Planning

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Andover, Massachusetts 01810  
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Project:  
**Memorial Field**

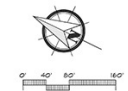
Concord, New Hampshire

Drawing Title:  
**Athletic Field  
Master Plan  
Option C**

Revision \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Checked: \_\_\_\_\_

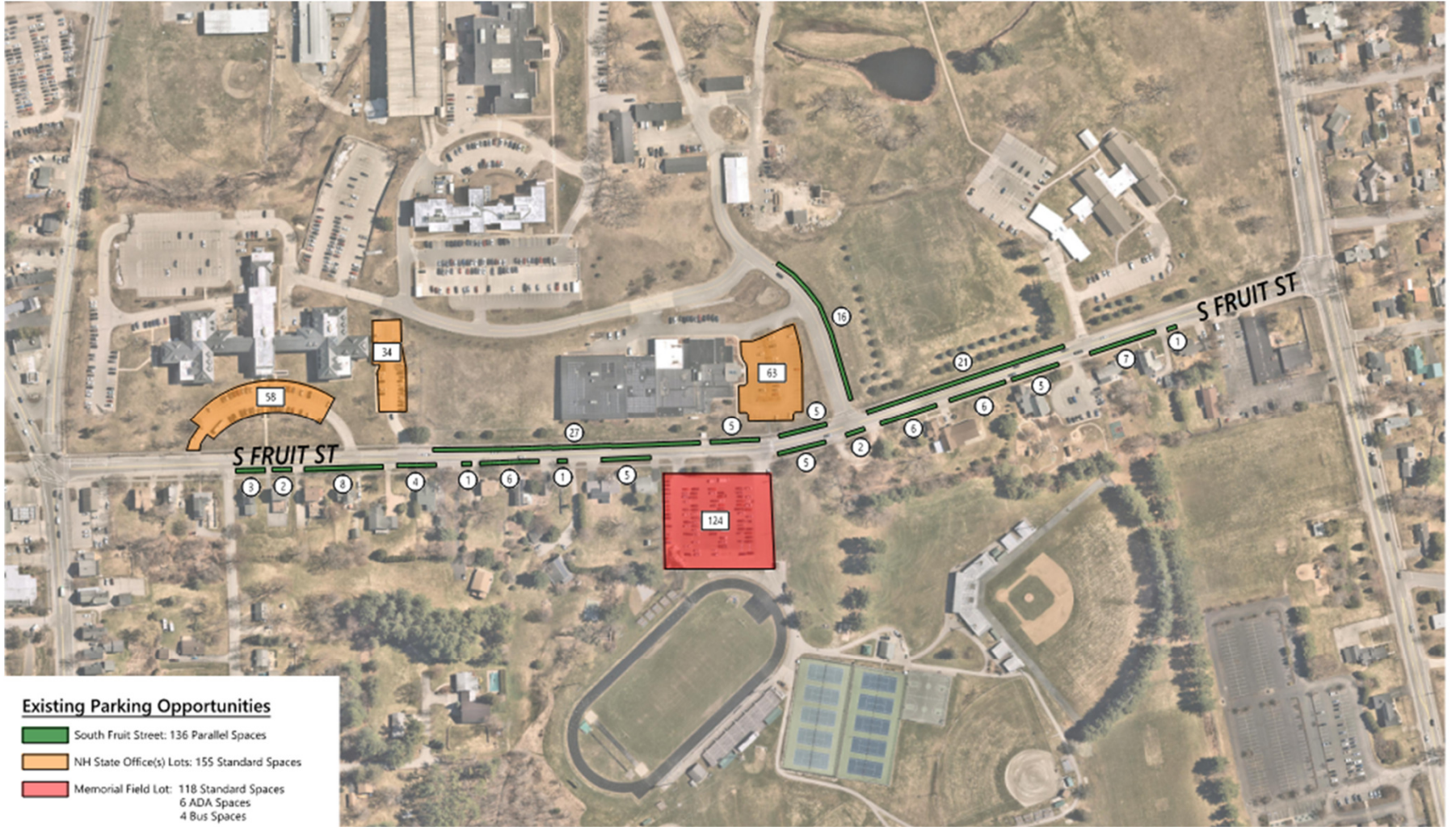
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**L-3**  
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# Preliminary Master Plan

## Parking





# Proposed new Master Plan

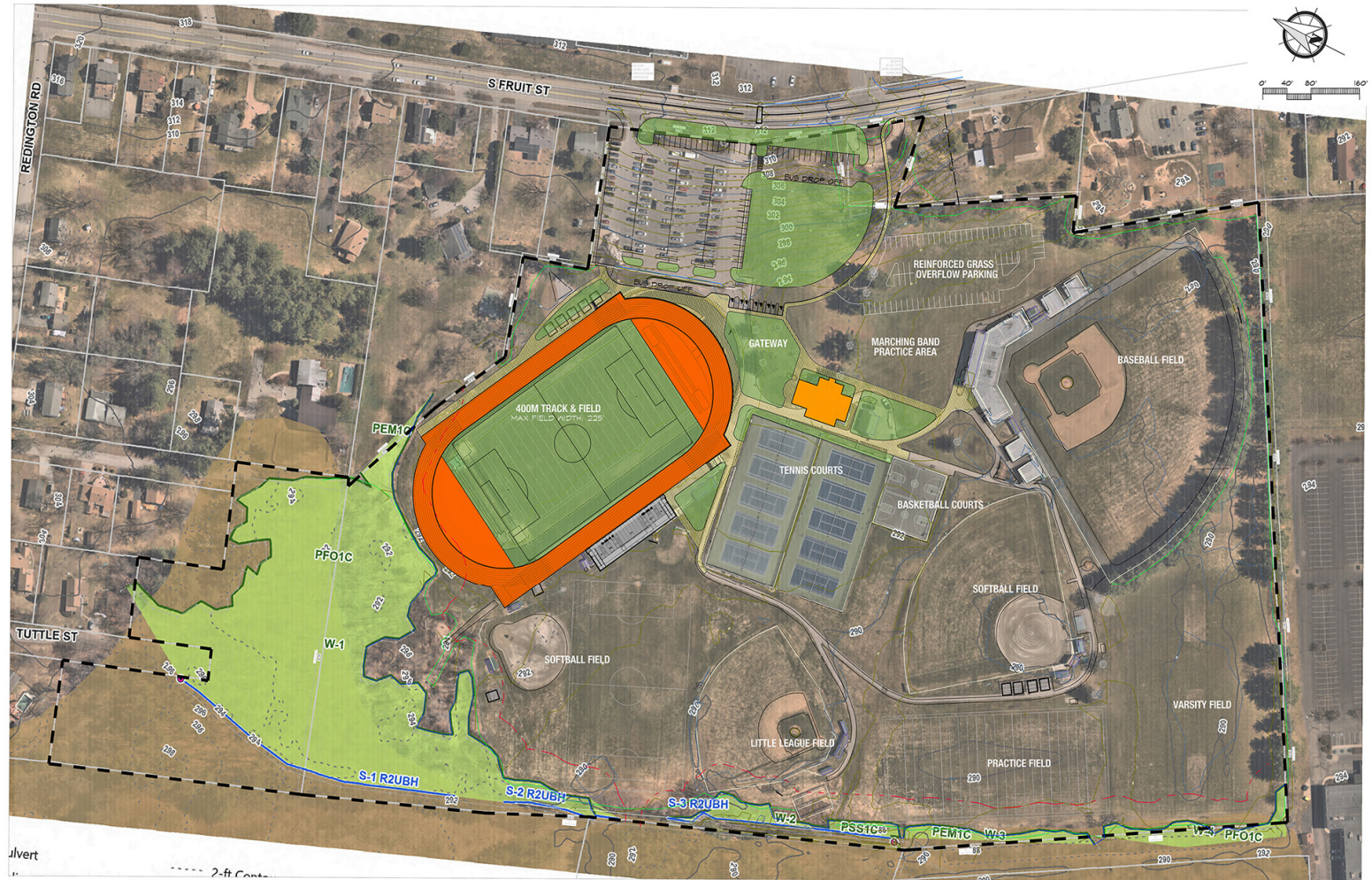
- New 8 Lane, 400 meter track with field inside
- Increased parking
- New Multi-Purpose Field
  - 360' x 225'
  - Soccer
  - Football
  - Lacrosse
  - Field Hockey
- 2000 Seat Grandstand
- Pressbox & Filming
- Sports Lighting
- Renovated Baseball
- Renovated Softball
- New Courts
  - 10 Tennis Courts
  - Tennis Lighting
  - 2 Basketball Courts
- Drainage Improvements





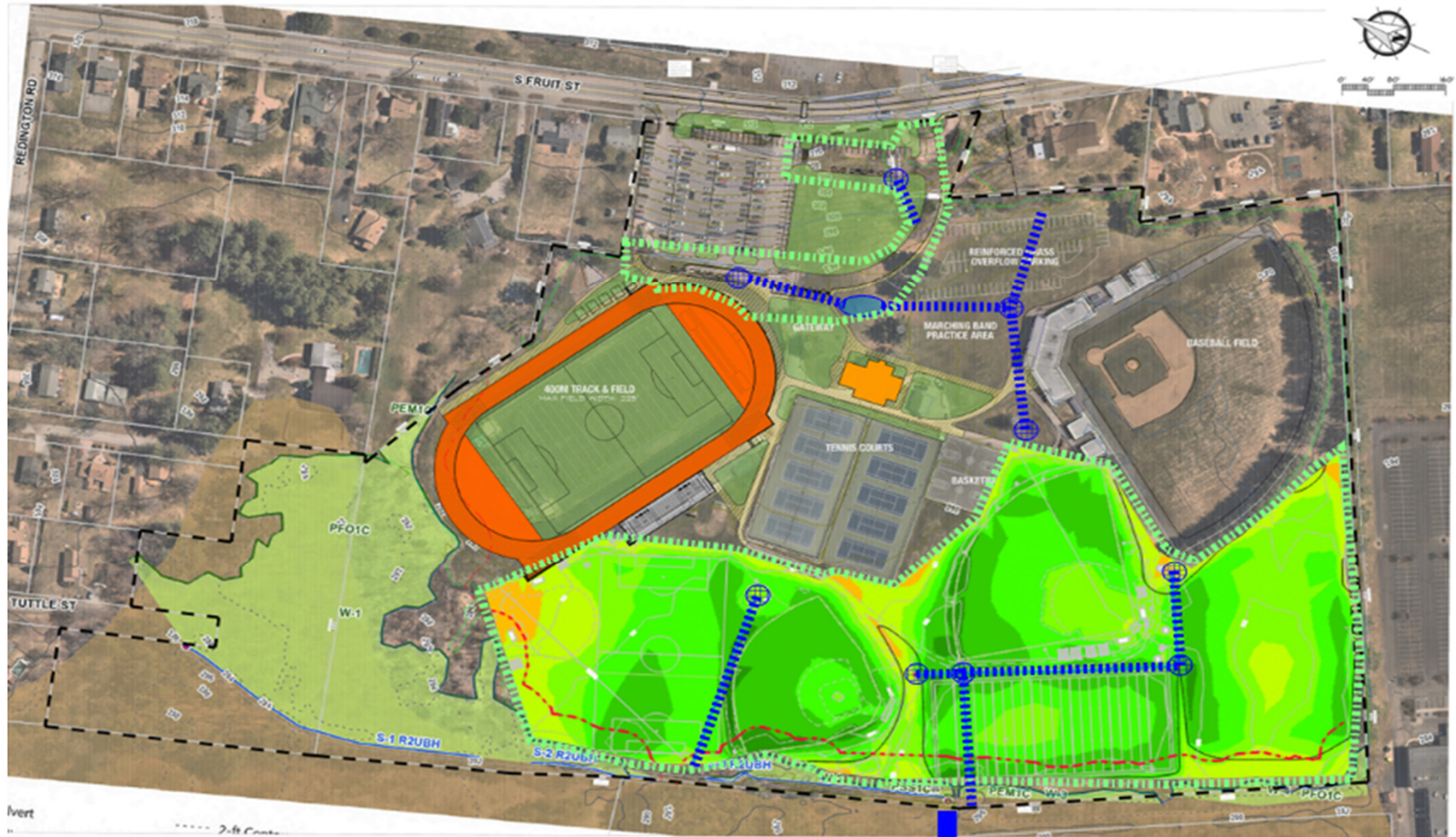
# Development Program – Phase 1

- 8 Lane - 400m Track
- Multi-Purpose Field
  - 360' x 225'
  - Soccer
  - Football
  - Lacrosse
  - Field Hockey
- 750 Seat Grandstand
- Pressbox & Filming
- Sports Lighting
- Improved Drop-off
- Improved Circulation
- 57 Parking Spaces
- 100 Overflow Spaces
- ADA Improvements
- Drainage Improvements
- New Field House
  - 5000 square feet
  - Bathrooms & Concession
  - Storage & Maintenance





# Development Program – drainage





# Preliminary Master Plan

## Phase One



HUNTRESS Sports



# Proposed new Master Plan



# Recommended next steps

Concord City Council and Concord School Board review and approve Master Plan for complex

Fund the final design, permitting and traffic study per approved master plan

Consider Phase 1 construction:

- Improved parking and traffic circulation

- Increase accessibility

- Build new 8 lane, 400 meter track with new field inside (large enough for all sports)

- New bleachers for track and athletic field

- Track and athletic field lighting

- Drainage improvements

Phase 2 could include the remainder of the Master Plan elements (can be broken down into subphases)

- Multi Purpose Athletic Field

- Baseball Field Renovation

- Softball Field Renovation

- Basketball & Tennis Courts

- Natural Grass Fields & Drainage



# Project cost overview

Final design, permitting and traffic study **\$1,500,000**

Projected cost for entire Master Plan **\$28,500,000**

## Phasing construction costs:

Phase 1 (Track/Field/Parking/drainage improvements): \$6,200,000

Phase 1 (New bathrooms, team rooms, maintenance): \$5,500,000

Phase 2A (Multi Purpose Athletic Field with bleachers): \$5,300,000

Phase 2B (Baseball Field Renovation): \$2,600,000

Phase 2C (Softball Field Renovation): \$1,600,000

Phase 2D (Basketball & Tennis Courts): \$2,200,000

Phase 2E (Natural Grass Fields renovations & drainage): \$2,200,000

**All info online at:**

<https://www.concordnh.gov/1943/Memorial-Field-Master-Planning>

**Questions/comments**