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Newton ARPA Investment

Newton North Synthetic Turf Field at Albemarle - \$2,200,000

The Newton North High School campus has only one synthetic turf field that can provide the high-traffic recreational playing surface that is necessary for the wide range of athletic team sports at a modern high school of its size. Newton South has two fields, which are both being replaced this summer as they are at end-of-life conditions. The Newton North campus does not have space for a second synthetic turf that wouldn't overlap with other playing areas such as baseball and softball fields. The main full-sized rectangular field at Albemarle, up against Craft Street, is currently grass but has not been able to withstand the heavy demand for field sports by both schools and leagues. With the remainder of the north end of the sports complex getting a \$7.4 million remake using CPA funds, this is the best time to convert this field to synthetic turf using the new and improved surfaces and infill that will be installed this summer at Newton South.

The new field surface at Albemarle will be used by Newton North for football, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey, ultimate frisbee, and other teams that can't be sufficiently accommodated on campus. Synthetic turf provides a consistent surface that allows for uninterrupted practice and game time. In addition to being a critical asset to the organized sports activities, this field will be a tremendous amenity for the entire community, particularly youth sports, and it will help alleviate the usage pressure and impacts on our other natural grass fields. Coupled with the improved field house and brand-new field light systems, Albemarle Park will serve a satellite sport complex for NNHS student athletes.