

**LAW OFFICES OF  
ELLIOTT M. LOEW, P.C.**

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Elliott M. Loew

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Of Counsel  
James R. Ferraro  
Rhonda S. Boulé

January 20, 2014

Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis  
Newton Parks and Recreation  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458

By email only to:  
cschein@newtonma.gov &  
bderubeis@newtonma.gov

RE: Newton SouthEast Little League

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis:

You may recall that back in December, 2002, as President of the Newton South Little League, I spoke with you, and at your suggestion wrote to then Commissioner Fran Towle concerning our idea for a new, state of the art Little League baseball park at the Newton Highlands Playground. At the time, we were in need of a new park to help maintain the high level of service we provide to our Little Leaguers, and to maintain a safe environment for the operation of the program. Funds for the maintenance of our parks were being lost as budgets were being scaled down, causing the programs to suffer.

Throughout many meeting and hearings, we submitted a plan for the redevelopment of the Highland Playground and met with neighbors, designers and city planners. The widespread support for the development of the Highlands Playground, and in particular for the construction of a new Little League park was heartening. We were excited that there was so much genuine support.

Now, more than ever, we continue to need a state of the art Little League park to maintain the high quality of the program we run. As you know, I am still fully involved with the now-merged Newton SouthEast Little League in many capacities. The Red Sox World Series victory, and the success of our program last year as Massachusetts State Champions has again raised the interest level in Little League Baseball.

The plan for the Newton Highlands Playground has been on the board for a

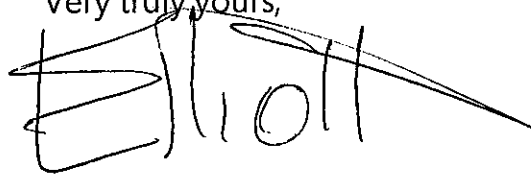
long time and we have all patiently awaited getting shovels in the ground. We are grateful that you have continued to support this project, and understand the importance of the funding sources that you seek.

Please feel free to distribute this letter to anyone you feel should know that this project is important to the hundreds of Newton families we serve, and that our Board of Directors remains fully committed to our goals of working with you in any way we can to make this project a reality.

We fully support this project and all of your attempts to seek the badly needed sources of funding.

With best regards.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elliott", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elliott M. Loew

EML:ss  
cc: Newton SouthEast LL Board

Alexander Ebling  
785 Centre Street  
Newton, MA 02458  
617-610-4459

January 17, 2014

Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis  
Newton Parks and Recreation  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458  
Attn: Carol Schein

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope this letter finds you well. As this is a busy time of year, I will try to keep my thoughts brief.

I am writing in support of the Highland's Park Project. As a current little league coach and Newton SouthEast board member, I am very much aware of the benefits this project will provide kids. I grew up in the Newton area, and truly cherished my time as a little leaguer. The highlight of this time was the one game I was able to play under the lights. As we continue to try to provide our participants the best experience possible, I have no doubt that this project will help our players have an unforgettable time in Little League. In addition, participants in other sports will have the same joy of playing under the lights as the pros do. Of course, we all know young athletes just want to be like the professionals.

I truly believe this project needs to go forward. It has been our dream as a board to make this happen; it is time for it to become a reality. Thank you for your time. Please do not hesitate to call with any questions.

Warmly,

Alexander Ebling

From: [CWaksler@eckertseamans.com](mailto:CWaksler@eckertseamans.com)  
To: [cschein@newtonma.gov](mailto:cschein@newtonma.gov)  
**Subject: Highland's Park Project**  
Date sent: Fri, 17 Jan 2014 09:52:07 -0500

Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis  
Newton Parks and Recreation  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458  
Attn: Carol Schein

Dear Commissioner:

I am writing to express my full support of the Highland's Park project. The project will have a huge positive impact on the lives of those who live in the surrounding area and will increase the ability of children to exercise, play on real quality fields and have a great experience playing sports. Funding for parks and fields is very important for our children, especially in this age of video games, IPADS and computers.

I am also a board member of the Newton Southeast Little League (NSELL) and feel that a new, quality baseball field would improve the experience for the children enrolled in our program. Both of my boys are participants in NSELL and playing on quality fields enriches the game day experience for them. My older son has played several times on the lighted field at Lyons. Having coached his team, I can assure you that playing on a lighted field is a highlight for the kids during the baseball season. They all love it and realize that it is a special night when they get to play a game under the lights. I am sure that you could expect significant support from NSELL towards the development of this project.

Thank you for making the effort to get this project underway. It is very appreciated.

Craig R. Waksler, Esq.  
Member  
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC  
Two International Place, 16th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
(617) 342-6890 (Direct)  
(617) 342-6800 (Main Office)  
(617) 342-6899 (fax)  
[cwaksler@eckertseamans.com](mailto:cwaksler@eckertseamans.com)(See attached file: Waksler\_Craig.vcf)

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From: "Roberts, Charles M.,M.D.,Ph.D." <Charles\_Roberts@dfci.harvard.edu>  
Date: Jan 18, 2014 6:38 PM  
Subject: Newton Highlands Project  
To: "cschein@newtonma.gov" <cschein@newtonma.gov>, [bderubeis@newtonma.gov](mailto:bderubeis@newtonma.gov)  
<bderubeis@newtonma.gov>

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis and Ms. Schein,

I am writing to most strongly support the Newton Highlands project and the next step of using CPC funds to fund construction documents. As a father of four children, we have made use of nearly all fields in Newton – including baseball, soccer, lacrosse and football. The addition of lighted sports fields would be a MAJOR addition/improvement to the available fields and would increase the quality of life of many residents. I know that my kids would be thrilled to play there.

I am also a former President of Newton SouthEast Little League, having served 3 years as President of NSLL then later NSELL, and am currently Secretary of the Board. Consequently, I am well aware of the needs of Newton youth, and of the benefits of quality fields. I believe that the Newton Highlands project will be extremely beneficial to the children of our families.

Please let me know if I can further support this project in any way as I will be delighted to do so.

Sincerely,

Charlie Roberts  
174 Oliver Rd  
Waban, MA 02468  
617-969-3755

From: "Brooks, Steven" <SBrooks@ptc.com>  
Date: Jan 20, 2014 2:38 PM  
Subject: Highland's Park  
To: "bderubeis@newtonma.gov" <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>, [cschein@newtonma.gov](mailto:cschein@newtonma.gov)  
<cschein@newtonma.gov>  
Cc: "Brooks, Steven" <SBrooks@ptc.com>

Dear Ms. Schein and Commissioner RuBeis,

As president of Newton SouthEast Little League, an active board member of NSELL (and Newton East LL) since 2005, and a lifelong resident of Newton, I am writing to you to express my unwavering support of the Highland's Park project. Not only will this have a tremendously positive impact on the 4 Little Leagues across Newton but also will benefit those playing football and soccer at all age levels (including the middle schools).

In my 9 seasons on the board of NELL/NSELL, I have been the chief field scheduler as well as a volunteer coach/manager. Not being able to schedule night games to help reschedule games that are rained out or can't be played due to conflicts with kids playing other sports has been a big challenge. In particular, scheduling games in the fall is a complete nightmare. We have to start games at 4pm in order to get them complete. This places tremendous stress on our volunteer coaches who have to leave work an hour or more before this in order to get their teams to the field. This goes for holding practices as well – we simply can't do practices on many nights because we don't have enough fields when we schedule out the games. This means less skilled players advancing through our system which has an impact on the sports at our high schools.

It is really embarrassing when we play in travel programs in the summer and fall from other cities and see the great facilities (dugouts, lights) and revenue sources (concession stands, advertising) they have compared to what we have. I have 2 boys that have gone through NELL and some of the finest memories they have is when they were able to play under the lights at Lyons or Albermarle or at towns we visited.

I strongly encourage you to support this project in any way that you can. Let me know if there is anything more that I can do.

Thanks,

Steve Brooks  
President, Newton SouthEast Little League

Home address:  
231 Country Club Rd  
Newton, MA 02459

Attended Bowen, Weeks, NSHS (class 1980)

3 Kids who have attended Memorial-Spaulding, Oak Hill MS, and NSHS and played baseball (NELL, Sr League, Babe Ruth, OHMS, NSHS), football (OHMS and NSHS), soccer (NGS, NYS, BAYs), and the non-field sport of basketball (NAA, OHMS)

Thanks to everyone that contributed to my walk to fight Pancreatic Cancer in 2013. This year, I raised \$9241 (4th best in Massachusetts) exceeding my goal by 16%. Since I started in 2011, I've raised \$20,930. Once again, my team raised the most money in the state by meeting our \$25,000 goal this year. I couldn't have done it without you.

PTC employees: Read my story at

<https://share.ptc.com/sites/community/watercooler/ptcpeople/Pages/Steven-Brooks.aspx>

[http://www.ptc.com/company/email\\_signatures/ptclogo.png](http://www.ptc.com/company/email_signatures/ptclogo.png)

Steve Brooks

Senior Director

Business Systems

Phone: 781.370.5973

Cell: 617.699.2628

Fax: 781.707.0346

email: [sbrooks@ptc.com](mailto:sbrooks@ptc.com)

PTC.com

From: "Jodi Detjen" <jdetjen@alumni.duke.edu>  
Date: Jan 20, 2014 1:16 PM  
Subject: Highlands Field  
To: <cschein@newtonma.gov>, <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>  
Cc: "Brooks, Steven" <SBrooks@ptc.com>

Dear Ms. Schein and Commissioner RuBeis,

As Newton Highlands resident, parent of two very active sports-oriented children, and former president of Newton East Little League, I write to wholeheartedly support the building of the Highlands field. Newton has a very large need for lighted and turf fields. When we travel to other towns, it is embarrassing how poorly ours are in comparison. In addition, making up games or holding practices is quite challenging in the fall and spring as there are insufficient natural light hours. A lighted field would be a boon to everyone.

It's time for our community to invest in such a community-oriented project that would benefit a significant percentage of our children.

Thank you for your support.

Best,

Jodi

Jodi Detjen

Co-Author of *The Orange Line: A Woman's Guide to Integrating Career, Family and Life*, available on Amazon

Working with individuals and companies to increase the presence of women in leadership

@jodidetjen



From: "JFK PM" <jfk\_pm@brcs-inc.net>  
To: <cschein@newtonma.gov>  
Subject: Little League Fields Newton  
Date sent: Mon, 3 Feb 2014 10:41:33 -0500

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Hello

A very rewarding project to be able to have our kids enjoy a safe and fun time at our local fields in Newton, any volunteer work I can help to support this great project please do not hesitate to e-mail.

Thanks Ben Valente

Charlemont street Newton.

From: "Christine" <cbwhitman1@verizon.net>  
To: <cschein@newtonma.gov>  
Subject: Newton Highland Fields  
Date sent: Fri, 31 Jan 2014 09:13:04 -0500

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Hi Carol,

PLEASE get the fields project rolling. It is a valuable, wasting asset sitting there unattended at the moment. It's walking distance for so many children and a wonderful resource for the City to have a baseball field and well kept park. Waban and Highlands families would really appreciate your efforts.

*Christine Whitman*  
617.285.6255 (m)

**MICHAEL HOWELL**

**49 CANTERBURY ROAD  
NEWTON, MA 02461  
617-630-9091**

Ms. Carol Schein  
Office of Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis  
Newton Parks and Recreation  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458

Dear Ms. Schein,

I am a longtime Newton resident with children in the public schools. I am writing to join my voice with other neighbors would want to see the Newton Highlands Playground project move forward and be completed, where it will transform the sports and recreational opportunities for our city.

My understanding is that this project has the support of the immediate neighborhood surrounding the park, and it certainly has support from my household.

I urge you to do everything in your power to help bring this badly needed improvement to Newton family life to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Howell". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Michael Howell

cc: Mayor Setti Warren  
cc: Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis

From: Bob Derubeis <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>  
To: "cschein@newtonma.gov" <cschein@newtonma.gov>  
Subject: Fwd: Support for Highlands Playground  
Date sent: Thu, 23 Jan 2014 09:32:23 -0500

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Deborah Youngblood <[youngblood@newtonma.gov](mailto:youngblood@newtonma.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Jan 17, 2014 at 4:06 PM  
Subject: Support for Highlands Playground  
To: [bderubeis@newtonma.gov](mailto:bderubeis@newtonma.gov)

Good afternoon Commissioner,

I deeply hope you will support the development of new playing fields at the Highlands playground site. We moved to Newton 6 years ago to raise our three children. We were swayed to choose Newton because of it's reputation for family friendliness. While we love Newton, as our children have developed into avid sports players I have been struck by lack of beautiful and adequate sports spaces given the level of interest in our town. When we play at out of town locations I am consistently struck by how much more they seem to have invested in them. We never seem to have enough spaces for practices, many of our youth sports sites are inadequate (poorly maintained soccer fields, not enough basketball courts, poorly maintained and lack of baseball fields, almost complete lack of lighted fields). I would be so happy to see this remedied in the near future through the creation of this new space.

I know there are always competing priorities for public dollars. However, Newton rests on it's family friendliness. We are at our best when we are together, cheering our children on and enjoying the beauty of our town. I hope you will push for this worthy investment.

Sincerely,

Deborah Youngblood  
Newton Highlands

--  
Robert J. DeRubeis  
Commissioner  
Newton Parks & Recreation Department  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458

Newton Parks and Recreation

January 19, 2014

124 Vernon St.

Newton, MA 02458

Attn: Carol Schein

I am writing to strongly support the Highlands Playground Project and any funding that you may be able to provide. I have lived in this city all of my life and coached every youth sport, both boys and girls. I am currently the treasurer of the Newton South East Little league as well as the Ward 5 representative on the Recreation Commission. Developing this enormous piece of land has been a dream of mine since my son started playing in the little league (he is now 26) and been involved with the development of the plan from the beginning. This park could be a great asset to the community as the project has the support of all the leagues who hope to use it (Little League, Youth Football, and both boys and girls soccer). The field is compacted and is so wet that for much of the year it is unplayable. The tennis courts and the basketball courts are in disrepair and need to be redone. The tot lot is outdated. I can't think of a better project that would benefit the most number of Newton residents as this would. It doesn't require the city to purchase any more land. What is required is to fix an asset that the city already owns.

Sincerely Yours

Byron Dunker

10 Southwick Rd.

Waban, MA 02468

Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis  
Newton Parks and Recreation  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458

01-20-14

Dear commissioner DeRubeis,

Being a Waban resident I'm not an abutter to the Highlands Playground so if the neighbors of that playground are in support then I'd like to support it also. That area seems to be underutilized and adding lights, developing ball fields, improving parking, concession stand, all would seem to make the city more attractive and directly add to the quality of life for the immediate neighbors.

Sincerely,

Kevin Flannery

83 Agawam Road

Waban, Ma 02468

617 281-3058

From: Jonathan Freedman <jfreedman62@gmail.com>  
To: bderubeis@newtonma.gov, cschein@newtonma.gov  
Subject: Letter in support of Highlands Park  
Date sent: Mon, 20 Jan 2014 22:49:33 -0500

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Enclosed please find a letter in support of the development of the sports complex and playing fields in Newton Highlands. If you need any additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your time and efforts in this important endeavor.

Jonathan Freedman

Woodward Street

## Carol Schein

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**Subject:** Newton Highlands Park Project  
**From:** john taft <jtaft77@hotmail.com>  
**Date sent:** Tue, 21 Jan 2014 08:34:49 -0500  
**To:** "cschein@newtonma.gov" <cschein@newtonma.gov>,  
"bderubeis@newtonma.gov" <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>

Dear Commissioner Robert J. DeRubeis and Carol Schein,

My name is John Taft and I'm writing in support of the Highlands Park Project. I'm a Board Member with Newton SouthEast Little League, and was a member of the Newton East LL prior. I have been involved in youth baseball for over 5 years here in Newton.

Over this past year, I managed the Newton SouthEast All Star Team that made it to the New England Regional Tournament in Bristol, Ct as the Massachusetts State Champions, I was also the Manager of the Newton U11 State Champion Team that won the Bay States tournament this year, and I own a baseball player development program called Triple Crown Baseball here in Newton.

I write to you today as one of the biggest advocates for youth baseball here in Newton. Having the success I had this year with my teams let me see just how incredible some of the fields were that we got to play on. Every time we walk on and off one of these fields my kids, and their parents, would say "I wish we had fields like this in Newton." Having a "Field of Dreams" type complex in Newton would be an amazing thing for the kids in the community, and I hope that it gets approved for the funding it desperately needs.

Players admire the fields they play on, and giving them a beautiful field that they can call their own would build their pride even more for Newton Baseball!

Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.

John Taft  
Triple Crown Baseball  
"Changing the game one player at a time"



From: John Stephans <jstephans14@gmail.com>  
To: cschein@newtonma.gov, bderubeis@newtonma.gov  
Subject: Highland Park  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 09:13:52 -0500

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Bob and Carol,

I am writing you in support of the proposed Highland Field project. As the incoming President of Newton Youth Soccer, a parent of 2 youth soccer & Newton SE Little League players and a lifelong resident of the city, I understand the positive impact this project will have not only for the immediate neighborhood, but for families across the city.

I believe that providing additional, quality, multi-purpose recreational facilities in the city is needed given the current strain on our open space as the number of sports offered in the city and their popularity grow. Moreover adding fields, such as what is being proposed at Highlands, not only enhances the value of the neighborhood it is in but the perception of the city's continued commitment to provide quality services and facilities to its residents.

Thank you for your help with making this field/playground complex a reality.

Regards,

John Stephans

From: KPOWtak1@aol.com  
To: cschein@newtonma.gov  
Subject: RE:Highlands Project  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 09:34:21 -0500 (EST)  
Copies to: bderubeis@newtonma.gov

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Dear Commissioner Robert DeRubeis and Project Manager Carol Schein,

I am writing you in favor of the Highland Playground project. As a resident of Newton since 1993, I have always wondered why this space is not better utilized. My guess is that it's only used currently to about 10-15% of its potential. It's could be a "crown jewel" for our youth if used wisely. Thus, I am totally in favor of the project that would include the possibility of lighted fields, bathrooms, concession stands, better parking, updated basketball courts and a better children's play area.

I have coached nearly 50 youth teams the past 16 years and I see the value of our youth having organized, well-run programs in our city. That part has been covered very well with our local youth, middle school and high school programs. This project would be a nice place a lot of our youth \_ that live in that area \_ could call home. It would be nice to have a first-class facility for a top-notch city.

Traveling the state running a small business during the day, I marvel at some of the quality facilities that I see in many, many smaller towns. I know we have some nice fields and courts, but that part of the city has always been lacking when it comes to fields, courts and play areas. I truly think it's a need as our city strives to adjust for programs for our youth.

I have three children (20, 18 and 11) that live not far from that part of the city. I know they would have liked and used the areas. They are all mostly grown, so its not for mine, but for the future youth.

Let's use the funds and space wisely to offer more for the future of our city.

We owe it to the children of that part of Newton, and I know others across the city would greatly benefit, too.

Thanks so much for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

Ken Powtak  
828 Walnut Street

## Carol Schein

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*Subject:* Support for Highlands Project  
*From:* Dave Goldblatt <daveg@psyton.com>  
*Date sent:* Tue, 21 Jan 2014 09:48:33 -0500  
*Copies to:* bderubeis@newtonma.gov  
*To:* cschein@newtonma.gov

Dear Ms. Schein,

I wanted to let you know of my support for the efforts of the Newton Parks and Recreation Department in your request before the CPC to receive funding of the construction documents for the Highlands Project.

I have been involved with youth sports programs in Newton for the past ten years, primarily through my association with Newton SouthEast (formerly Newton East) Little League, where I now serve on the Board as Vice President, Operations. NSELL had over 500 players registered in its 2013 programs, covering the spring, summer, and fall seasons. As you may be aware, NSELL's All-Star team were the 2013 Massachusetts Little League State Champions.

NSELL utilizes a number of fields in our area of the city, with our primary fields for our age 10 and up players being Bowen, Richardson, and Jay Gordon (Newton Centre Playground). One of the significant challenges we face is the limited playing time available during our spring and fall seasons due to the lack of a lit playing field. Games in the early part of the spring season may be called early due to darkness, and games in the fall - despite starting at 4:30PM and sometimes as early as 4PM - often are unable to safely complete six innings of play. This impacts the number of games our children can play. Having a lit field as part of a youth sports complex - including the amenities such as restroom facilities and a concession stand - would significantly improve the playing experience not only for our players, but for children throughout the City, as demonstrated by Newton West Little League's Lyons Field.

When playing with teams from other parts of Massachusetts a common question is why our fields are lacking compared to others - a question I really can't answer. This isn't just a comparison to Wellesley or Weston, but to communities such as Arlington, Billerica, Braintree and Walpole, who have complexes dedicated to youth baseball and other sports. West Roxbury has the Parkway fields, which hosted the State Championships this past year. Why can't Newton have similar facilities for our children? While my oldest son, now 14, would not be a primary user of the Highlands Project, my 8 year old son certainly could be - and I'd really like him to have the opportunity to play in the environment this project would provide. I think my kids, along with the rest of the children of Newton, not only deserve this opportunity, but that we owe it to them to provide it.

Thank you for your efforts on this project, and please let me know if I can help in any other fashion.

Sincerely,

David Goldblatt  
50 Vine St.  
Chestnut Hill, MA



Bob Derubeis &lt;bob.derubeis@gmail.com&gt;

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## Highlands Project

1 message

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**Peter Schofield** <phschofield@gmail.com>

Tue, Jan 21, 2014 at 9:54 AM

To: bderubeis@newtonma.gov

Cc: cschein@newtonma.gov

Hello Robert

I've been a Newton resident for close to eight years and I have three children attending the Bowen School. I am emailing to share with you my endorsement and support for the development of the Highlands athletic facility. I am actively involved in the YMCA, Newton South East Little League and even Newton Kindergarten soccer.

With the explosion of enrollment in the elementary schools I believe this project is timely and worthwhile. The opportunity for the community to gather and connect as a facility is extraordinary. It truly reflects our commitment to the development of our youth in Newton.

Best,  
Peter Schofield  
57 Daniel St Newton

Peter H Schofield

From: zachsdad@aol.com  
To: cschein@newtonma.gov, bderubeis@newtonma.gov  
Subject: Highland Project Support  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 10:15:34 -0500 (EST)  
Copies to: ZACHSDAD@aol.com, cwmroberts@gmail.com, daveg@psyton.com

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To: Carol Schein and Robert De Rubeis:

I am writing on behalf of my support for the Highland Project for all the fields, area activities, including a lighted baseball field.

As a Board member of Newton South East Little league, a Long time resident of Newton and more importunely a parent.

This development is extremely important for the future of athletics for our child now and for generations to come.

Over the past few years the Board of Alderman has aggressively move forward on major business developments; that has impacted all residents but our children. This is the time to help our children and future generations compete on a level playing field with other towns, communities and organizations.

When we think of Newton and all it has to offer. This is one need that we deserve to fulfill for our child and our children's children.

I am willing to help in anyway needed to help our community remain the BEST PLACE TO LIVE.

Thank You  
Larry Berger  
15 Malubar lane  
Newton MASS  
02459

## Carol Schein

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*From:* "Gomez, Ben" <Ben.Gomez@pilothouse.com>  
*To:* "cschein@newtonma.gov" <cschein@newtonma.gov>, "bderubeis@newtonma.gov" <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>  
*Subject:* In support of renovating the Highlands Playground  
*Date sent:* Tue, 21 Jan 2014 16:18:57 +0000

Just a quick note to emphasize how supportive we are of the project to build new fields at the Highland's Playground. There is a critical need in our city for these facilities. We could not be more supportive. As a parent who has volunteered for years in youth sports, the state of Newton's current facilities is worrisome. We need this. Please know that our community is incredibly supportive.

All the best,

Susan W. Cable and Benjamin Gomez  
55 Alban Road  
Waban, MA 02468

## Carol Schein

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*Date sent:* Tue, 21 Jan 2014 09:50:41 -0600 (CST)  
*From:* JONATHAN KOMINIK <jonathan.kominik@verizon.net>  
*To:* bderubeis@newtonma.gov,  
cschein@newtonma.gov  
*Subject:* Highland's Park Project

Dear Robert & Carol, I think the highland park project would be a fantastic investment for the entire city of Newton. To have lighted fields for children athletic events would have many positive attributes. I highly endorse this project. Jonathan Kominik 857-492-6293

From: "Ron Lipof" <rcl02467@gmail.com>  
To: <cschein@newtonma.gov>, <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>  
Subject: The Highland Park Project  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 11:03:41 -0500

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I am writing to support the Highland Park project. Newton is clearly lacking an appropriate complex of this nature, and this project will serve to put us on par with cities and towns such as Weston, Needham and Wellesley. Moreover, with the significant increases in elementary and middle school enrollments, this project will have significant use.

Ron

---

**Ronald Lipof**  
**Board Member**  
**Newton South East Little League**  
+1 617 716 6117  
[rcl02467@gmail.com](mailto:rcl02467@gmail.com)



From: Troy Bracher <Troy.Bracher@ifs.statestreet.com>  
To: "bderubeis@newtonma.gov" <bderubeis@newtonma.gov>, "cschein@newtonma.gov" <cschein@newtonma.gov>  
Subject: Development of Highlands Field  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 13:19:12 -0500

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Robert/Carol –

I am writing to voice my support for the proposed development of the Highlands project.

My family moved to Newton from Minnesota in 2005. We've had one son participate in Newton Mustangs football (with me volunteering to bring ice to every home matchup), all three sons participate in Newton Youth Soccer, and all three again participating in Newton South Little League or Newton SouthEast Little League (with me coaching at various levels).

Having traveled to quite a number of other football, soccer, and baseball facilities inside of 495 (and in my home state), there is no question Newton lags quite far behind in having a very high quality venue that would attract children to participate and visitors to come in for jamborees/tournaments. The location is perfect, as it does not require any additional purchase of (very dear) real estate and is located near many local establishments who could benefit, business-wise.

The finished product will certainly be a source of pride for all residents of the city and addresses a need for the community-at-large.

Please do whatever you can to keep up the momentum on bringing this long-term dream to a reality.

Very Best Regards,

Troy C. Bracher CFA  
Vice President  
State Street Alternative Investment Solutions  
IFS, A State Street Company  
617-662-9043 (o)  
617-888-1094 (c)

Information Classification: Limited Access

From: RGenser601@aol.com  
To: bderubeis@newtonma.gov, cschein@newtonma.gov  
Subject: Highlands Project  
Date sent: Tue, 21 Jan 2014 13:45:32 -0500 (EST)

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Dear Robert J. DeRubeis and Carol Schein,

I have been a resident of Newton for the past 10 plus years. I would like to let you know just how amazing the Highland Project would be for our kids of Newton. It would offer a facility, that does not exist on the south side of Newton, for the kids of Newton.

My wife and I would be willing to help in any way possible to accomplish such an amazing project.

Thanks,

Reese and Jamie Genser  
195 Old Farm Road  
Newton, MA. 02459

January 22, 2014

TO: Robert DeRubeis, Commissioner, Newton Parks and Recreation  
Carol Schein, Project Manager  
Members of the Newton Community Preservation Commission

FROM: Terry Sack, Former President, Newton East Little League (1988-2002), Chief Administrator, Newton Senior Youth Baseball League

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis, Manager Schein, and Members of the Community Preservation Committee:

It has been brought to my attention that a full scale renovation of the Newton Highlands Playground, highlighted by an illumination system for the Little League field that will enable the field to become both a showpiece for not only the Newton Community, but will be able to serve as a state-of-the art facility at which Newton can host games with outside communities, including tournaments, is currently up for consideration by the CPC.

As a current board member of Newton SouthEast Little League, and as a past President of one of the league's two predecessor organizations, I can't express how much such a facility will enable the city's baseball programs to move not only into the modern age of youth baseball facilities, but will finally enable the long held desire of baseball families in Newton to be able to play games after dark in a facility that meets all modern safety standards of youth baseball programs. With an ever-increasing involvement of children in extracurricular activities, the ability to play games at night will enable our players to be able to complete what is already a rather short season as compared with other parts of the country. Games that previously may have been postponed permanently will now be able to be completed in spite of the frequent rain cancellations that occur in the average short New England spring.

Indeed, when Newton East Little League first sought to partner with the city to adopt its field, the Jay Gordon Field at Newton Centre Playground, back in 1990, the original hope was that we could eventually play in a facility such as the one being proposed. Over the years, proposals for lights and any other structures on the field were shot down as a result of a very small minority of neighbors to that property. This new facility will enable the league to fulfill its original mission to upgrade the facilities on which it plays.

I am also lending support to this proposal in spite of the end result being the loss of a back-up field for make-up games and practices that occur in the Newton Senior Youth Baseball League, the league in which I am currently the chief administrator. In order for the Senior League program to continue to operate, it needs enthusiastic players and families who have had a positive experience in Little League, so it is really a win-win for both programs.

Thanks for your consideration.

Terry Sack

From: "Dick J. Lee " <dlee@indmortgage.com>  
To: cschein@newtonma.gov, bderubeis@newtonma.gov  
Subject: Highland's Park  
Date sent: Wed, 22 Jan 2014 23:23:41 -0500

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To,

Robert DeRubeis, Commissioner, Newton Parks and Recreation  
Carol Schein, Project Manager

Members of the Newton Community Preservation Commission

As a lifelong resident of the Garden City, father, business owner and former NELL player and NSELL coach and board member. I fully support the renovation of the Highlands park.

This improvement has been in need since I was a child growing up playing pop warner football at that field. The current lighting has aged at the football and soccer field.

The City of Newton is riding on a nice high with the recent success of the State Championship by the Newton SouthEast Little League All Stars and the Babe Ruth teams reaching state finals.

Using the CPC will comeback 100% towards the children of this great city, I fully support and look forward for a positive outcome

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time

All the Best,  
Dick

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