



District 6 Planning Council

171 Front Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55117  
651-488-4485 fax: 651-488-0343

February 17, 2015

RE: CIB Proposal-Sylvan Fields

According to the Ramsey County "Building Our Future" report, the North End has the highest concentration of poverty in Ramsey County. Wilder Foundation puts the highest concentration of Karen refugees in the North End; Hennepin and Ramsey counties are combined.

Despite population trends and obvious needs we have had recreation centers re-purposed or closed and the field conditions are sorely lacking. The North End is home to six athletic areas, only one is devoted to soccer (McDonough) and a small area (Cayuga) can be a mixed use field. Each of the fields is highly used and in 2014 McDonough had to close their soccer field because of the high use, lack of attention and conditions. The Sylvan Fields are not used for baseball but are heavily used for volleyball and soccer.

District 6 Planning Council and the North End neighborhood has made Sylvan a priority for the field conversion and wholeheartedly support the Parks Department's CIB proposal regarding Sylvan.

Thank-you for your consideration.

Regards,

*Jeff Martens*

Jeff Martens  
Land Use Chair  
Board of Director's Vive Chair