

Multi-purpose Turf Facility

Importance to the Community

Collaboration

This project is an excellent opportunity for collaboration across the community to benefit the region. ISD 88 is building an artificial turf football/soccer field this Summer and through RENU the City will be able to leverage this investment with sales tax dollars to turn the field into a year-round asset.

Health Improvement—Physical Activity and Social Well-being

According to the Heart of New Ulm research, over 67% of New Ulm's population and over 33% of New Ulm's children are overweight or obese. Public recreation facilities are targeted to improve health outcomes and provide opportunities for increased social connectivity. This facility will benefit adults and children from across the region.

Enhanced Commerce

There is an increasing need for New Ulm to expand its regional significance as a destination and economic center. As we seek to attract young families to join our community workforce, facilities like this dome can differentiate New Ulm. There will be many opportunities for regional tournaments and events in this facility.

Proposer: Tom Schmitz, Director
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Estimated Cost: \$3,500,000*

Park and Recreation Department / ISD 88

Proposed Need for Multi-Purpose Turf Facility

There is no indoor multi-purpose turf facility in South-central or Southwestern Minnesota. Many colleges, schools and associations struggle with inadequate space during winter months. Locally, the Vogel fieldhouse is overwhelmed with users of the courts. In addition, many regional programs go to the Twin Cities to use their dome facilities. The addition of a large indoor turf facility could include amenities for walking/ running, batting cages, artificial turf field space to

host a variety of practice and game events for soccer, baseball, softball, lacrosse, and many other opportunities for physical activity for adults and children in the community and region.

The project would include a dome facility to be placed over the new artificial turf field at the New Ulm Senior High School. The City and School would work on a joint operating agreement for the facility. The City would own the Dome material and store it in offsea-

Keys to Project Success

- Retrofit New ISD 88 Field Site to accommodate Dome
- Obtain a joint use agreement with ISD 88 that provides value to all partners
- Engage community and regional partners for broad use and benefit (MLC, area colleges, school districts, associations, park/rec programs)



Maple Grove Sports Dome (200'x400') City & High School partnership

Value Impact of New Ulm Multi-Purpose Dome

Community

- ◆ Catalyst for commerce
- ◆ Strengthens many community organizations through collaboration
- ◆ Promotes physical activity and social connectivity

Regional

- ◆ Would be the only facility of its kind in Southwestern MN serving the needs of many communities, organizations and residents

City

- ◆ Will generate revenue as a impact facility >\$200k annually; no subsidy needed
- ◆ Expands impact of park and rec programming to diverse population.



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*Cost will be validated once we begin formal engineering study. Current estimate based on preliminary study.