

Grant Bowl FAQ – 1/9/20

1. What is the Grant Bowl project?

The Grant Bowl Master Planning project is exploring considerations for adding lights, bleachers and a regulation softball field in addition to the existing sports fields in the Grant Bowl. Some of the goals include the ability to host Grant Football games on a home field and support Grant's softball team at the school, rather than remote locations. The addition of lighting will make both these possible by extending use time and make the bowl safer for students and the community. The project is a partnership PPS and Portland Parks and Recreation.

2. Who owns the Grant Bowl?

Grant Bowl is owned by Portland Parks and Recreation. The facility is used by both the High School and the Community. For many years PPS and PPR have been working together to determine use times and care of the facility.

3. Why do we need lights and bleachers?

Currently there is no place to sit for both community and school activities. This limits the High School's ability to host home games for football, soccer, lacrosse and track. Additionally, lights in the field would extend the use time allowing for Softball and Track to practice and play in the bowl during the spring season. Current Grant is the only 6A High School in the state that is not able to host their own home football games.

4. What kind of public engagement has taken place?

A series of meetings took place in 2019. This included the development of a Grant Master Planning Advisory Group which had three meetings in the fall of 2019. In addition, there were two master planning workshops where community members and neighbors met with the design team and offered their input on aspects of the master plan. Meeting presentations and minutes can be found at <https://www.pps.net/Page/14612>

5. Would any other structures be added to the Bowl as part of this process?

If we add bleachers City Building Codes will require the addition of restrooms. The project team is also looking at issues of storage for field equipment, concessions, ticketing (some [Oregon School Activities Association](#) OSAA games require tickets) and security for crowd management.

6. What are the next steps?

PPS has funded the Master Planning Phase of the design process. The intent was to define the scope of the project and provide initial cost estimates. This will be delivered to the PPS Bond Sub-Committee in January for further direction and funding options. At this point the project is not funded beyond the Master Planning phase.

7. Who is the design team for the Grant Bowl master plan?

[BORA Architects](#) is the design team for the Grant Bowl Master Planning project. BORA has a strong background in designing creative functional and sustainable learning environments. They designed the Faubion PK-8 School that was funded through the 2012 Bond and opened in 2017

8. How can the community stay informed and involved?

Information is regularly updated on PPS's Grant Bowl page <https://www.pps.net/Page/14612>. There is an email address on the page where comments and questions can be addressed. During the Master Planning phase, we held two community workshops where over 100 people attended. As the project moves forward there will be additional community involvement. There have been no decisions to determine the hours of use and general day to day requirements of the project. These types of decisions will be addressed through community engagement in the design phases, Land Use review (which is a public process) and will be beholden to city Ordinances such as Title 18, the City Noise Ordinance which restricts noise during certain hours.

9. What is the history of development for the Grant Bowl?

In 2010, the Friends of Grant Athletics (FOGA), Portland Public Schools (PPS) and Portland Parks and Recreation (PP&R) came together to launch an initiative to improve the playing conditions at the Grant Bowl. The group hired Dull Olson Weeks Architects (DOWA) and Atlas Landscape Design to undertake a design process that concluded in 2011. Their design included new artificial turf fields, a resurfaced track and other park improvements. Those track and field improvements were completed in 2013. Their design did not include lights or bleachers, making it more difficult, to host spectators at sporting events. To date Grant is not able to host home football or soccer games, the school plays these games off-site.

During the modernization of Grant, the Hollyrood field was originally identified the site for a renovated softball field. It was later determined this would not adequately support the needs of Grant softball. Following a robust engagement process, the community voiced support to improve the Grant Bowl to better support Grant Athletics including softball. The Board of Education voted to begin the design process improve the facilities in the bowl to that end. This Grant Bowl Master Planning workshop is the next step in that process.