

Quarterly Update

September 2023



We're so excited

Rendering is conceptual for representational purposes only. Final design will be dependent on available funding.

that the construction of the Adaptive Ball Fields at Makino Park is underway with the goal of being complete for our 2024 spring season.

We are beyond words to express our gratitude to everyone who has made a contribution to making these fields a reality! Your financial support is building ball fields that will not only make a huge impact on the community but more importantly for our athletes and their families.

The Mason Challenger League appreciates your generosity, for believing in our mission, supporting our dream to level the playing field, and investing in inclusion for all.

With gratitude,

Susan Murdock

Mason Challenger League Board President



Mason Challenger League Board President Susan Murdock and Mason Challenger League Player Sydney Roderer (Fall 2023 CenterPoint Magazine)

Adaptive Ball Field Project is Approved by City

On May 8, 2023, the City of Mason approved legislation authorizing contracts to begin construction of two adapted ball fields at Makino Park. The fields will mark phase II of this signature park, furthering the City of Mason's mission of providing inclusive opportunities for children and adults of all ages.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on July 24, where city leaders, Mason Challenger athletes and their families, state and county representatives, and members of the community joined together to move the first shovels of dirt marking a year of successful fundraising.

The fields will include surfaces allowing athletes with mobility issues to easily navigate, dugouts allowing all teammates to gather, accessible restrooms, and so much more. Not only will athletes be able to play uninhibited, but the fields will allow their parents to kick back and enjoy a game of baseball knowing that their children are safe.

The fields are scheduled to be open for our spring 2024 season.

Construction of the Adaptive Ball Fields

Have you been out to Makino Park lately? If not, you'll be amazed at the progress crews have made in a month since the groundbreaking. The ground is currently being prepped for the construction of the fields with the grading and sub-grading of the site as well as the installation of the storm sewers.

Progress will continue daily as long as the weather stays good.

It begins!

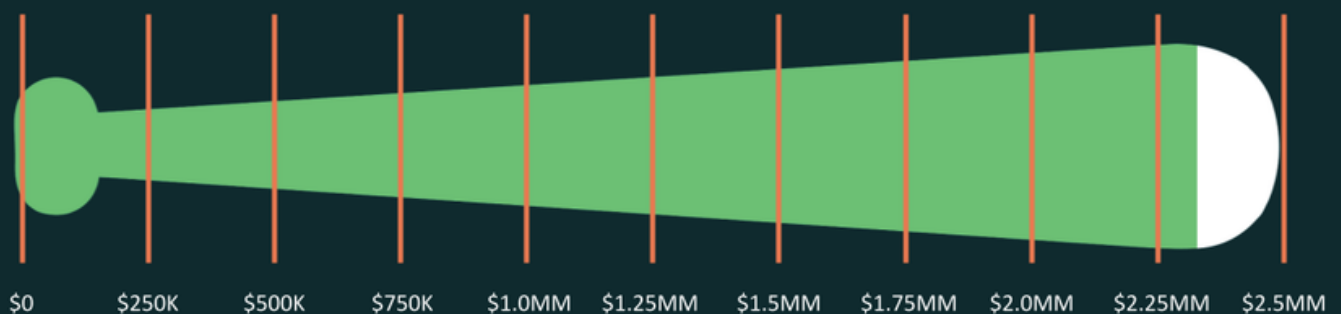


We're Rounding Third and Heading Home

After a year of successful fundraising, the project was put out to bid at the end of 2022 with the initial bids coming in almost double of what the original estimate was due to inflation and supply chain issues left over from the pandemic. In early 2023, with supply chain issues easing, members of the Mason Challenger Board sat down with city engineers and sharpened their pencils to only include the parts of the project integral to the fields, removing some of the ancillary items, and put it out to bid again. This time bids came back, still higher than the initial estimate, but more reasonable at \$2.5 million.

As of today, \$2.3 million dollars has been raised towards the project which includes grants from the State of Ohio, the Warren County Commissioners, matching funds from the City of Mason, as well as private grants and donations from local civic groups, the business community, and passionate citizens. And while a slight gap currently exists in the total fundraising goal, the City of Mason, the Mason Parks and Recreation Foundation, and the Mason Challenger League remain confident in the ability of the community to come together to raise the additional funds needed to reach home base.

Help us raise \$2.5 million for Mason Challenger Adaptive Ball Fields at Makino Park



Interested in helping us reach home plate? Here are some ways you can donate!



SPONSORSHIP

Contact Susan Murdock,
Mason Challenger Board
President, at
challenger@masonyouth.org
to discuss sponsorship
options.



CREDIT CARD

Visit
www.masonparksfoundation.org/give.html
to
set up a credit card
payment.



CHECK

Make checks out to Mason
Youth Organization. Please
note "Adaptive Fields" in the
memo line. Checks can be
mailed to: Mason Youth
Organization, PO Box 441,
Mason, OH 45040.



VENMO

Venmo account: @MasonYouth
Confirmation Number: 9699
Please indicate "Adaptive Fields" in the
What's It For? field.



RECURRING GIFT

Set up an automatic
monthly contribution
through your credit or
debit card. Visit
www.masonparksfoundation.org/give.html
to set up
a credit card payment.



MATCHING GIFT

Double your donation
through matching funds at
your company. Check with
your HR department to
learn about any corporate
matching opportunities
through your company.



GIFTS OF STOCK

If you would be interested
in contributing stock,
contact Susan Murdock,
Mason Challenger Board
President, at
challenger@masonyouth.org.

Working In Partnership

