

GDYSC - President David Pitkin, 517 Pepperell Road, Groton [dpitkin@gdyisc.org](mailto:dpitkin@gdyisc.org) Dec 19, 2023

Community Preservation Committee  
Town of Groton  
173 Main Street  
Groton, MA 01450

Subject: Support for the Cow Pond Playing Fields Upgrade Project (Project Proposal #2025-02)

Dear Members of the Community Preservation Committee,

I am writing to express my support for Project Proposal #2025-02, the Groton Parks Commission's initiative to upgrade the facilities at the Cow Pond Playing Fields. As a resident and active member of the sporting community within Groton, I believe that investing in our recreational spaces is crucial for the well-being and enjoyment of all residents.

The Cow Pond Playing Fields hold a special place in our community, serving as a hub for various recreational activities. The proposal to upgrade these facilities aligns perfectly with the accessible suggestions outlined in the 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan. I would like to specifically highlight and endorse the inclusion of accessible parking and accessible bathrooms in the project.

Ensuring that our recreational spaces are accessible to all members of the community is not only a matter of inclusivity but also a demonstration of our commitment to creating an environment that caters to the diverse needs of our residents. The provision of accessible parking and bathrooms will undoubtedly make the Cow Pond Playing Fields more welcoming and usable for individuals with disabilities, allowing them to fully participate in and enjoy the recreational opportunities our town has to offer.

As we evaluate the needs of the town and recreational spaces it is also worth noting that middle school Football does not plan to return to Cow Pond. It would be good to remove the scoreboard, goal posts, and shed before they become an eyesore. Other inclusive additions to the space for consideration the addition of a playground (like at Larter) and a walking track around the perimeter of the playing fields. Upgrading the lights to light up more of the soccer practice fields in the Fall when the sunset makes later practice hard and more efficient LEDs to save electricity costs. Another reasonable upgrade would be An AED, or automated external defibrillator available near high-usage fields.

I am confident that Project Proposal #2025-02 will contribute significantly to the overall enhancement of the Cow Pond Playing Fields and foster a sense of community among residents of all ages and abilities. I believe that supporting this project is an investment in the well-being and happiness of our community members, and I urge you to give it your full consideration.

Thank you for your time and commitment to the betterment of our community. I trust that the Community Preservation Committee will recognize the value of this project and allocate the necessary resources to bring these enhancements to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Pitkin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Pitkin, President Groton-Dunstable Youth Soccer

