

CPAC PROPOSAL  
REQUEST FOR FUNDS FOR FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF MILL RIVER BASEBALL FIELDS  
Amherst Baseball Inc.

Background:

Amherst Baseball Inc., a Massachusetts 501(c)3 non-profit organization, has taken over management of youth baseball in Amherst following the 60-year tenure of Stan Ziomek. Utilizing our own funds and volunteer labor, Amherst Baseball has made major improvements to town baseball facilities in its short two-year history. In 2012, the organization began construction on a new Little League-sized tee-ball field at Kiwanis Park, investing over \$4,000 of our funds for the excavation of existing turf and underlying soils and backfilling with 60 tons of engineered infield soil. Later that year, we restored the badly degraded infield at ARMS. In 2014, Amherst Baseball contributed \$1,400 for the purchase of 21 tons of engineered infield soil mix for an emergency repair to Ziomek Diamond. We conservatively estimate that our in-kind labor services for the construction, repair and upkeep of town-owned baseball fields exceeds 450 hours over the last two years

We now ask for CPAC's support for reconstruction of the badly neglected Mill River baseball fields.

Constructed in 1974, the Mill River baseball fields are at the center of Amherst's most vibrant and heavily used town recreation areas. To our knowledge, the Mill River baseball fields have never undergone any refurbishment since original construction. With its newly refreshed swimming deck, refreshed basketball and tennis courts and modern playground, Mill River Park provides a vital facility for youth and adult recreationists.

The twin baseball fields at Mill River are the town's primary facility for youth baseball, yet they have fallen into disrepair and are subpar in almost every respect. Common practice is for baseball field infield soil to be replaced every ten years: at Mill River, infield soil has not been replaced since construction. The result is differing surface levels between the grass and the infield soil (in places, as much as a 4" differential), and a hard, unforgiving surface that can injure a child sliding into a base. Field #2 has a clay base just under the infield soil making proper drainage nearly impossible. Often, days after a hard rain, standing water remains on this field. Both pitching mounds are in disrepair and one is misaligned. Also, over the decades, the entire grass infield surface has developed undulations and low spots, hence the necessity for infield grading and new sod.

Other issues plague the town's central ballfields. As the only Little League facility in the area without dugouts, players have no respite from the summer's sun when they are not on the field. Our current batting cages, narrow and constructed of chain link, can create dangerous situations for hitters and coaches as hard-hit balls can carom off the hard surface of the supporting steel poles. Many of the plastic guards, which protect outfielders from the jagged upper-end of the outfield fence, are missing or broken.

In short, the Mill River baseball fields are among the worst in the Pioneer Valley. Through neglect, engineering mistakes, and a lack of regular, scheduled maintenance, our diamonds are a disservice to the girls and boys who use them. And in some areas, create safety concerns.

Proposal:

For the reasons noted above, Amherst Baseball submits the following proposal for your consideration:

- Excavation of current infield soils and pitching mounds at both fields. 4" at Field #1, and 8" at Field #2 (to account for removal of clay subsurface)
- Grading and installation of sod at both infields
- Installation of 4" of engineered infield mix at both fields
- Installation of 4" of sand/gravel for Field #2 subsurface  
**\$75,651**
- Replacement of water line to Field #1, installation of water line to Field #2. Both water lines to include locked spigots and drinking fountains. (Water lines are critical components to the regular maintenance of engineered infield mixes)  
**\$10,000** (DPW In-kind service: installation of materials and labor \$2,200 not including drinking fountains)
- Installation of electric service to Field #2, depending on location of outlet 85' to 150' of cable in conduit buried from garage electrical panel to Field #2. Electricity allows for use of a public address system, necessary if Amherst applies to host tournaments.  
**\$2,000** (DPW In-kind service Electrician labor \$1,000)
- Construction of four dugouts, to be constructed in an aesthetically pleasing design  
**\$32,000** (construction TBD)
- Removal and placement of both batting cages with wider, netted cages.  
**\$7,000** (DPW In-kind service labor \$2,000)
- Replacement of outfield fence protectors  
**\$700 materials, AB Inc. labor**

Requested Subtotal: \$127,351  
{DPW Donated labor and materials \$5,200}

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Budington  
President, Amherst Baseball

# Community Preservation Act Committee Proposal Request Form for FY 2016

## CPA funding category

Check all that apply

- Community Housing
- Open Space
- Historic Preservation
- Recreation

**Date:**

**Submitting Entity:** AMHERST BASEBALL INC.

Contact Person: NATE BUDINGTON

Contact Phone: 413-687-5259

Contact Email: NATE.BUDINGTON@MAIL.COM

**Overview of Proposal:** – Please describe your project and your feasibility analysis

### Describe how your request meets the CPA criteria:

1. Description of funding needed including:
  - a. Documentation of cost estimates
  - b. Other sources of funding, e.g., grants, self-funding, fund-raising
  - c. Timeline on how CPA funds, if awarded, would be spent including over multiple years
2. Urgency of the Project, if any
3. Estimated timeline from receipt of funds to Project completion
4. Acquisition or preservation of threatened resources
5. Population(s) to be served by the Project
6. How will the CPA investment in your property, facility or project be maintained over time?
7. How the Project is prioritized by requesting Town committees or commissions?
8. Other information regarding the Project deemed necessary for CPAC

*Please See Attached.*

Amherst Baseball Inc.  
Proposal to restore Mill River baseball fields.

1(a) See attached

1(b). As of this date, our Mass 501 (c) 3 organization has devoted over \$15,000 of our funds to create a new tee-ball field at Kiwanis Park, restore the middle school field to its original dimensions, make emergency repairs to Ziomek Diamond, and take over all maintenance of the Mill River ballfields from the town. Amherst Baseball Inc. has provided at no cost to the town, approximately 450 hours of labor to these and other baseball-related projects. The town DPW will provide the labor to construct the batting cages, electric access and water lines.

1 (c). Much/all of this project should be completed in the fall of 2015 at the conclusion of the baseball season, though the infield reconstruction may necessitate moving the waterline, dugout project to fall 2016.

2. Properly maintained baseball fields receive infield soil restoration every ten years. The Mill River fields have seen very little maintenance and no soil replacement since their construction in 1974. The soil is currently compacted and depressed, causing a lip between the infield grass and the soil itself. Field#2 was mis-engineered at construction and has a clay base too close to the surface causing severe and regular water pooling.

3. This project will begin immediately upon the conclusion of our fall ball season in early October of 2015 with expected completion by December 1. Construction issues *may* necessitate spreading this project over two years (see 1 (c)).

4. N/A

5. Amherst Minor and Major Little League serves boys and girls ages 7-12.

6. Amherst Baseball Inc. has a Memo of Understanding (pending) with the Town of Amherst that provides for our organization to perform all regular maintenance at the Mill River fields at no cost to the town. This includes but is not limited to mowing, trimming, pre-season restoration, pre-game preparation, water removal, and repair. This is formalizing an agreement reached two years ago which has resulted in Mill River receiving significantly more attention than it has received in years.

7. This project is under review by LSSE

8. See attached narrative.

	Description	Qty	Units	UnitCost	XtdCost
	BALLFIELD RENOVATION 1	0.00		0.00	0.00
	DEMO	0.00		0.00	0.00
	Remove existing skin material (4")	11,114.21	SF	0.00	0.00
	Remove existing skin material	137.21	CY	8.00	1,097.70
	existing skin material disposal	137.21	CY	8.00	1,097.70
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	REASSEMBLE	0.00		0.00	0.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	LOAM FOR INFIELD 6"	59.00	CY	30.00	1,770.00
	FINE GRADE AND HYDROSSED	3,134.59	SF	0.32	1,003.07
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	INSTALL CLAY INFIELD	0.00		0.00	0.00
	Infield skin area 4"	4,969.60	SF	1.00	4,969.60
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	62.00	CY	70.00	4,340.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	Baseline skin area 4"	396.15	SF	2.00	792.30
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	5.00	CY	70.00	350.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	COACHES & DECK skin area 4"	225.08	SF	2.00	450.15
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	3.00	CY	70.00	210.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	Pitchers Mound skin area	100.64	SF	10.00	1,006.37
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	2.00	CY	70.00	140.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	BASES	1.00	EA	325.00	325.00
	BASES INSTALL	1.00	EA	450.00	450.00
	HOME BASE MATERIALS	1.00	EA	115.00	115.00
	HOME BASE INSTALL	1.00	EA	300.00	300.00
	PITCHING RUBBER MATERIALS	1.00	EA	70.00	70.00
	PITCHING RUBBER INSTALL	1.00	EA	250.00	250.00
	TEAM BENCHES	4.00	EA	350.00	1,400.00
	TEAM BENCHES INSTALL	4.00	EA	200.00	800.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	BALLFIELD RENOVATION 2	0.00		0.00	0.00
	DEMO	0.00		0.00	0.00
	Remove existing skin material (12")	11,114.21	SF	0.00	0.00

	Description	Qty	Units	UnitCost	XtdCost
	Remove existing skin material	480.00	CY	8.00	3,840.00
	existing skin material disposal	480.00	CY	8.00	3,840.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	REASSEMBLE	0.00		0.00	0.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	LOAM FOR INFIELD 6"	59.00	CY	30.00	1,770.00
	FINE GRADE AND HYDROSEED	3,134.59	SF	0.12	376.15
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	INSTALL CLAY INFIELD	0.00		0.00	0.00
	Infield SAND BASE [Depth = 8 IN]	144.00	CY	20.00	2,880.00
	Infield skin area 4"	4,969.60	SF	1.00	4,969.60
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	62.00	CY	70.00	4,340.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	Baseline skin area 4"	396.15	SF	2.00	792.30
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	5.00	CY	70.00	350.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	COACHES & DECK skin area 4"	225.08	SF	2.00	450.15
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	3.00	CY	70.00	210.00
	infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	0.00	TN	0.00	0.00
	Pitchers Mound skin area	100.64	SF	10.00	1,006.37
	Infield clay mix [Depth = 4 IN]	2.00	CY	70.00	140.00
		0.00		0.00	0.00
	BASES	1.00	EA	325.00	325.00
	BASES INSTALL	1.00	EA	450.00	450.00
	HOME BASE MATERIALS	1.00	EA	115.00	115.00
	HOME BASE INSTALL	1.00	EA	300.00	300.00
	PITCHING RUBBER MATERIALS	1.00	EA	70.00	70.00
	PITCHING RUBBER INSTALL	1.00	EA	250.00	250.00
	TEAM BENCHES	4.00	EA	350.00	1,400.00
	TEAM BENCHES INSTALL	4.00	EA	200.00	800.00
	BLEACHERS MATERIALS	2.00	EA	2,100.00	4,200.00
	BLEACHERS INSTALL	2.00	EA	500.00	1,000.00

Estimator: J.P. November, 2014

	Description	Qty	Units	UnitCost	XtdCost
	MOBILIZATION	1.00		0.00	0.00
	INSTALL 1,200 LINEAR FT OF SUB-GRADE PIPING	1.00	EA	6000.00	60000.00
	INSTALL 2 SUB-GRADE CONTROL BOXES	1.00	EA	1000.00	1000.00
	INSTALL 2 PEDISTAL WATER FOUNTAINS WITH CONCRETE SURROUNDING BASE	1.00	EA	3000.00	3000.00
	TRENCHING & BACKFILL SOIL				TOWN OF AMHERST DPW
	REPAIR DAMAGED AREAS	2,400.00	SF	0.32	763.00

\*PRICING INCLUSIVE OF MATERIALS AND LABOR