

August 30, 2022

Councilmember Cate, Community Leaders Break Ground at Hickman Fields

\$11 million to upgrade and restore beloved Kearny Mesa, Clairemont Mesa community athletic area

San Diego, CA: After years of advocacy to improve outdoor City spaces in District 6, on Tuesday, August 30, Councilmember Chris Cate joined City and community leaders for the official groundbreaking of Hickman Fields Athletic Area in Kearny Mesa.

Councilmember Chris Cate said, “Today’s groundbreaking at Hickman Fields Athletic Area has been a long time coming for residents, families, and the local youth sports teams of Kearny Mesa, Serra Mesa, and Clairemont Mesa. These communities deserve a modernized and functional athletic area for everyone to enjoy, including families, athletic organizations, and more. In a matter of months, that vision will become a reality at Hickman Fields.”

Councilmember Cate’s top priorities while serving the residents of District 6 have included seeing through projects like the upgrading of Hickman Fields. Councilmember Cate successfully secured \$11 million to fund the project via the Capital Improvement Program over several years.

Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, Rania Amen, Director of the Engineering and Capital Projects Department, and Scott Berndess, President of the Hickman Youth Athletic Association, joined Councilmember Cate for this morning’s groundbreaking.

“We are thrilled to see long overdue upgrades begin at Hickman Fields,” **said Andy Field, Director of the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department**. “The community has been waiting for quite some time for these much-needed improvements, and it will be great to see this facility continuing in its long serving role for a variety of athletic sports as well as becoming a community gathering place.”

“We are excited to kick off the Hickman Fields Athletic Area project to upgrade this beloved facility,” **said Rania Amen, Director of the Engineering & Capital Projects Department**. “This project will provide a number of much-needed improvements and we look forward to doing so while creating little to no interruption to the daily programs at the fields.”

Tuesday’s groundbreaking marks the beginning of a months-long process to upgrade the athletic area, including installing restrooms, one with a concession stand, and drinking fountains, and improving parking lots, pedestrian walkways, including a path of travel accessibility, landscaping and irrigation systems, stormwater drainage, sewer and water, lighting and electrical, and trash enclosures and utility infrastructure. Hickman Fields is expected to be fully renovated by November 2023.

###