



## **Cheyenne Park Site Renovation Work**

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

(June 26, 2006)

1. Q. ***What happened to the restroom/concession building in the plaza by the baseball fields?***

A. The building was destroyed by fire. The irrigation pump and controllers, along with the sports field lighting controls inside the building were also destroyed.

2. Q. ***Why has it taken so long to replace the building?***

A. The irrigation and electrical systems had to be relocated first. The City took a little extra time in developing a new process enabling the installation of a pre-engineered restroom building. This is the first project of it's kind in Plano and will save substantial tax dollars in architectural and engineering design fees. The new facility meets or exceeds park standards and has established a new process for future needs.

3. Q. ***Why are the soccer fields and some of the grass areas unlevel and what is being done about it?***

A. The soil in these grass areas has had some unusual shrinking and swelling occur during the recent drought over the past year. The shifting soil has damaged the underground piping and electrical wires running to the irrigation valves. Along with previous controller relocation issues, the site has not received sufficient watering to compensate for this exceptionally long drought. Many of these irrigation components are part of the original system installed in the late 1970's, thus they are brittle or are obsolete.

Consequently, the irrigation system must be renovated, the ground will have to be leveled, and grass re-established.

4. Q. ***When will grass renovation work be done?***

Some of the irrigation work needed to grow turf began in November 2005. The replacement of the restroom building is complete.

The unlevel grass areas will have to be re-graded and replanted, much like a farmer prepares his soil for new crops. There may be irrigation trenches and holes. The newly planted turf will not be able to withstand sports activities or play while the grass is establishing.

To address these issues, a temporary fence will be erected in early December 2005 around a large part of the turf area. This is being done to prevent public access for safety and quality redevelopment reasons.

Irrigation wiring and final head placement are nearly complete.

Importing suitable topsoil and the re-grading/leveling of the site was planned for May 2006, just prior to the growing season for Bermuda grass. Drought conditions that began in 2005 have continued to date. Watering restrictions effectively prohibit the establishment of new grass, so the leveling and preparation of the ground is also being delayed.

5. Q. ***Will the whole park be closed?***

- A. No. The baseball infields will be available for practice. They may also be used for scheduled games for young age groups. The playground and most of the northwest corner of the park will be available for typical neighborhood park use. Parking lots will remain open and the renovation work should not impact school use.

6. Q. ***When will this renovation project be finished?***

- A. Cheyenne Park is almost 30 years old. It is unfortunate that the restroom was destroyed by arson, but the resulting repair and renovation work has been expanded by the City of Plano to provide a more comprehensive update than just the replacement of the building.

Even if the drought conditions subside this fall, this phase of renovation work cannot be completed until fall 2007. The earliest that grass areas will be available for scheduled soccer games will be in the fall 2007 sports season. The temporary fence will remain in place due to the condition of the ground.

Another phase of renovation work is planned to begin in late 2007; however, this schedule may also be impacted by the drought. This work will focus on renovating backstops, dugouts and ball field plaza. Also, the aging parking lots will be improved with a concrete surface. These projects are planned to be completed in time for the summer 2008 sports season.

7. Q. **What effect will water restrictions have on the project?**

- A. Enforcement of Stage 3 water conservation measures began on June 19, 2006. Thus, the City can not begin turf establishment due to the limitations imposed by the restrictions. The amount of water and time available to apply it is not adequate to establish new turf. The situation will be closely monitored and the project will resume at a time when water restrictions are lifted; however, Bermuda grass can only be established during the heat of the spring and summer. The next opportunity to establish grass will be the summer of 2007. All other work in-progress, not requiring the use of irrigation water, will be completed.

8. Q. ***Who can I contact for more information?***

- A. Please call the Plano Parks and Recreation Department at 972-941-7263 if you have any questions or concerns. This information is also available on-line at [www.planoparks.org](http://www.planoparks.org).