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Rosy concession forecast for park district

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The Anderson Township Park District will have an estimated \$4.6 million budget for next year.

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Park commissioners reviewed the estimated budget at last night's meeting and will approve the final budget at the January meeting.

Commission President Duffy Beischel noted that the \$100,000 budgeted for concessions revenue throughout the park district seemed high.

So far this year the park district has received \$60,000 in concessions income.

Park District Executive Director Ken Kushner said the increase in estimates is because of plans to install synthetic fields at Riverside Park on Round Bottom Road in 2010.

Park Commissioner Nadine Gelter noted that even though concessions is a small amount she'd prefer a more conservative estimate until it's clearer how many teams will be using the new synthetic fields.

Beischel said the park district's equipment and operations center, Roce, is also in need of serious maintenance, including painting and roof replacement.

Roce has been around for 35 years, Kushner said, and houses the district's trucks, field equipment and other items important to the park district's operation.

Beischel suggested allocating some funds for routine maintenance to Roce to prevent larger, more expensive repairs.

"We need to protect the buildings that we have," he said.

Kushner said there has not been much work on Roce since 1995 and Gelter added that budgets for maintaining the building are usually the first to get cut.
