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Anderson Twp. park fields to cost at least \$1 million

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Riverside Park will have two synthetic fields next year.

The Anderson Township Park District, in the preliminary planning stages to install the fields, examined cost projections during last night's park commissioners meeting.

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The synthetic fields are estimated to cost more than \$1 million, not including labor, and Park Commissioner Dale Bartholomew asked for those costs to be included in the estimates.

Park District employees will provide the initial labor, which includes grading and gravel fill for the fields at Riverside Park, located on Round Bottom Road.

Executive Director Ken Kushner said the synthetic fields offer a good opportunity for the Park District by bringing revenue back to the district through rental fees and concessions.

Park Commission President Duffy Beischel said district officials should consider issuing bonds for the project to take advantage of lower interest rates.

The park district applied for two grants of \$200,000 each from the U.S. Soccer Foundation to help with installation costs.

Beischel said the park district should also search for grants to offset the cost of installing lights around the new fields.

Kushner said the entire project should be completed next summer.

Labor to prepare the field area would take approximately two weeks and field installation would take four weeks.