

## LETTER OF INTENT

### Breese Stevens Field – HOSPITALITY AND FIELD IMPORVEMENTS

917 East Mifflin Street

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To: **City of Madison Landmarks Commission**

From: **Eric Knepp, Parks Superintendent**  
Madison Parks Division  
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Rm. 104  
Madison, WI 53701

**Peter Rött, AIA, NCARB**  
Isthmus Architecture  
613 Williamson St. Suite 203  
Madison, WI 53703

#### **Project Context**

Breese Stevens Field, originally Breese Stevens Municipal Athletic Field, was constructed in 1925. Additions occurred in 1934 and 1939. Local architects, Claude and Starck, designed the brick and terra cotta structure in the Mediterranean Revival Style. The stone wall enclosing the field was built (1934) by the Civil Works Administration (CWA) with native stone quarried at Hoyt Park.

Breese Stevens Field was designated a City Landmark in 1995 and subsequently listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2015. Upon securing the historic designations, Madison Parks Division set out to prioritize restoration and revitalization of the stadium. For the past several years, as part of a focused planning process, Parks staff's efforts have been successful in completing significant code improvements and infrastructure upgrades to ensure the on-going viability of this cultural asset. The City entered into a partnership with Big Top Events to further leverage the site's great potential and this has been very productive. Breese Stevens Field is returning as destination venue for seasonal sports events and now community festivals and open-air concerts.

#### **Project Description**

Continuing to implement "preservation through purpose" at Breese Stevens Field, the Madison Parks Division is proposing the next phase of facility improvements. This project phase consists of hospitality and field improvements. Hospitality improvements will upgrade the bleacher area beneath the 1925 canopy and include public access atop the concession addition, previously approved and set to begin construction. Field improvements include additional bleachers, hardscape / flex space for concerts and vendors and technology upgrades required for professional soccer. The scope of this project is consistent with the [2007 Breese Stevens Field Rehabilitation Design Report](#) and as further articulated in the comprehensive [2017 Breese Stevens Field Facility Plan](#). These documents and the proposed addition were prepared for the City by Isthmus Architecture. Excerpts of the documents are attached.

All proposed improvements will only be visible upon admission to the facility. The 1934 stone wall that secures the perimeter otherwise prevents public view except from the adjacent high-rise buildings now constructed immediately to the east and to the west.

#### **Compatibility**

The proposed project is in keeping with overall goals, character, and pattern of development in the following:

- Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Plan
- City of Madison Downtown Plan

Respectfully submitted,



Peter R Rött, Principal Architect  
Isthmus Architecture

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

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Project Drawings with Conditions Image and Perspective View of Proposed Improvements