

PRESS RELEASE

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Grand Opening for New Sports Complex in Midwest City

It's been close to three decades since a new sports complex has opened its gates to welcome residents and visitors to our community. That changes this Friday, April 22, at 3:00 p.m., when the City of Midwest City officially opens the first phase of the Midwest City MAC (Multi-Athletic Complex) located at 9400 SE 29th St. The grand opening event will include music, food and a fun chance for visitors to experience the new all-turf fields.

Intended as a home for multi-athletes, the new Midwest City MAC utilizes an innovative design that allows teams in multiple youth and adult sports to compete on the same fields. The new state-of-the-art facility has built-in features that will easily transform all three of the baseball/softball diamonds into youth football/flag football fields, youth soccer pitches or other large sports fields. The design accommodates athletes of varying ages and ability levels in each of the sports.

An extensive drainage network under the all-turf playing surfaces ensures that weather and maintenance delays are kept to a minimum between competitions. Other features include sidewalk accessibility throughout the facility, a food truck court with the capacity for up to four trucks, canopied spectator seating areas and a baseball-themed playground. These features, coupled with the adaptable design of the fields, make the Midwest City MAC Oklahoma's premier sports complex.

"The work on this complex by our City staff and project partners has truly been commendable," said Tim Lyon, City Manager of Midwest City. "It's the Midwest City voters, however, that we really need to thank. They stepped forward in 2018 and told us they wanted new sports facilities. We hope they are as excited as we are about the completion of this first phase."

The Midwest City MAC was approved by voters as part of the 2018 Moving Forward General Obligation Bond program. Design for phase one was completed in November 2020 and construction began in January 2021. The design partners for the project were Guernsey and CHA Consulting, Inc. Lippert Bros., Inc. was the general contractor. ADG Architecture assisted with bond program management. Construction reached substantial completion in March 2022. The cost for design and construction of phase one of the complex was \$6 million.

"Community demand for youth and adult sports in Midwest City is high, and that's why our Parks & Recreation team has already been overwhelmed with requests to use this amazing new facility," said Asst. City Manager, Vaughn Sullivan. "Even though we expect a lot of tournaments to partner with us at the MAC, our Midwest City community is getting the chance to play first. We've made sure that our adult softball leagues and new youth leagues have been the first teams to hit the fields."

"Our community is blessed to have some of the best residents and partners in the metro area," added Mayor Matt Dukes. "We hope they can come help us celebrate another fantastic project that the voters helped to bring to our city."

Everyone is invited, especially Midwest City families, to come experience the Midwest City MAC during the grand opening celebration. Festivities will begin at 3 p.m. with a traditional presentation of the colors by cadets of the Carl Albert High School JROTC. Mayor Matt Dukes will be throwing out the ceremonial first pitch to open the facility. Athletes from local teams will demonstrate different uses of the facility, including teams from the Midwest City Soccer Club. There will also be food and a limited amount of MAC branded giveaways for those who can make it to the celebration.

The next projects expected to open under the 2018 Moving Forward G.O. Bond program include the Marion C. Reed Sports Complex (early June) and John Conrad Golf Course (mid-June). W.P. Bill Atkinson Park, located in Town Center Plaza, is expected to open in Fall 2022. Phase two projects at the Midwest City MAC are expected to address additional parking and traffic access improvements on SE 29th St. More information about these projects is provided and updated at <u>MidwestCityOK.org</u>.

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