

March 4, 2005

The Honorable Matthew D. Habash  
President, Columbus City Council  
90 West Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear President Habash:

The Recreation and Parks Department experienced significant damage to 23 ball diamonds in Berliner Park as a direct result of the extensive flooding and sanitary overflow that occurred earlier this year. This damage makes the diamonds unplayable. The softball season is rapidly approaching and it is critical that these diamonds be repaired immediately. League fees have and are being paid and schedules have been established.

A proposal has been received from "Mark" of Diamonds to repair these diamonds. Their proposal was in the amount of \$228,125.00. "Mark" of Diamonds is a local firm experienced in performing the type of work needed to restore the diamonds to a playable condition. Additional bids were sought from other firms around Ohio but all declined due to their current workload and the tight schedule we have allowed to complete the project. Funding for this emergency will come from the Sewer System Permanent Improvements Fund No. 671, Project 650404, OCA 655316, and Object level 6630. The department intends to include this cost in its claim to FEMA as a result of the flooding. If approved, some or all of the cost could be returned to the city.

In accordance with the emergency provisions of the Columbus City Codes, Title Three, Article Three, Chapter 329, I hereby declare an emergency and authorize the Recreation and Parks Director to enter into a contract for ball diamond restoration at Berliner Park with "Mark" of Diamonds in the amount of \$228,125.00

Sincerely,

Michael B. Coleman, Mayor

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Approved: Matthew D. Habash, President  
or  
Hugh J. Dorrian, City Auditor

c: All Council Members  
Wayne A. Roberts, Executive Director Recreation and Parks  
Hugh J. Dorrian, City Auditor  
Joel Taylor, Finance Director

Attachment