



# City of Pleasant Hill

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **CITY OF PLEASANT HILL RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE BASEBALL TOMORROW FUND**

### GRANT FUNDS AWARDED FOR A YOUTH BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELD

**PLEASANT HILL, MO - JULY 25, 2016** – The City of Pleasant Hill announced today that it was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$52,000 from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF). The grant will support the construction of a youth baseball/softball field at the Pleasant Hill Recreation Center.

The City of Pleasant Hill annually accommodates approximately 35 to 40 teams of over 400 youth interested in practice and league play for all age divisions. To provide additional field availability and to support the continued growth of the programs, the city will construct a youth field adjacent to the existing regulation baseball field. The grant will provide funding for the outfield and baseball fencing.

"This project will greatly benefit our community and we are very grateful to the Baseball Tomorrow Fund for their generous support of youth sports in Pleasant Hill, Missouri." - *C. J. Hicks, Mayor of Pleasant Hill.*

"The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is proud to support the construction of the fields in Pleasant Hill," said Cathy Bradley, Executive Director of the Baseball Tomorrow Fund. "On behalf of Major League Baseball and the Major League Baseball Players Association, we thank the city for its efforts to expand opportunities for young baseball players in the community by providing safe and quality playing fields."

The City of Pleasant Hill is still accepting in-kind and monetary contributions for dug-out supplies, on-field equipment, bleachers, fencing, and signage. Those interested in donating to the project may contact Justin Wieberg at 816-540-3135.

### About...

The City of Pleasant Hill's Parks and Recreation Department was organized in 1955 for the purpose of providing recreational instruction for youth and adult programming. Youth Softball/Baseball was provided by a private association until 2005 when the City assumed responsibility. The City annually accommodates approximately 35-40 teams of over 400 youth interested in practice and league play. Leagues are structured into age appropriate programs as follows: Tiny Tots T-Ball for ages 3-5, T-Ball for ages 5-Kindergarten, Coach/Machine Pitch for 1st/2nd Grade, and Kid Pitch for 3rd-8th Grade. The existing fields also accommodate spring, summer, and fall adult leagues, representing players over 14 years of age. The City has full access to the ball fields between April 1st and August 1st for practices,



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games, and tournaments and offers programming for in-town recreational teams and competitive play in a South Metro Sports Group (involving Raymore, Belton, Harrisonville, Peculiar, Grandview, and Greenwood communities). The High School utilizes the fields for Softball between August-October and for Baseball between February-May.

## About the Baseball Tomorrow Fund

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund (BTF) is a joint initiative between the Major League Baseball Players Association and Major League Baseball designed to promote the growth of youth baseball and softball throughout the world by awarding grants to support field renovation and construction projects, equipment and uniform purchases, coaches training material and other selected program expenses. Since its formation by the MLBPA and MLB in 1999, BTF has awarded more than 900 grants totaling over \$30 million to non-profit and tax-exempt organizations in the U.S., Canada, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Asia. BTF also facilitates league-wide initiatives including the collection and distribution of new and gently used equipment to organizations in need as well as field maintenance education clinics. For more information, visit [baseballtomorrowfund.com](http://baseballtomorrowfund.com) and follow BTF on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [MLBlogs](#).