

District IV Members,

During these difficult economic times, we are all trying to tighten our belts and live within our means. Government municipalities are no different. Kitsap County alone is trying to make up a large shortfall in the budget. Unfortunately, the Parks Department often becomes victim to county belt tightening measures as they are considered a discretionary department. [Fields Today, Fit Tomorrow](http://www.FieldsToday.org) (<http://www.FieldsToday.org>) believes it is important to let our County Commissioners know that the need for quality athletic fields is vital to the citizens of the county and they should be reminded of this when they are looking at ways to balance the county budgets.

With that said, we are conducting a post card mailing campaign to the Kitsap County Commissioners to stress the importance of field maintenance and operations funding as well as funding for future field development. Time is of the essence for this mailing campaign to be effective as the Commissioners will be determining the 2009 budget by the end of November. Provided you, as a District IV member, support this direction for county funding of fields, I am proposing to send a postcard in your name with the language below.

**BY SENDING AN EMAIL** to [SendPostCard@fieldstoday.org](mailto:SendPostCard@fieldstoday.org) and inserting your name in the reply, you will be signifying your support and will ask Fields Today, Fit Tomorrow to mail a postcard in your name to the Kitsap County Commissioners requesting them to support our fields. Please provide your approval so that our Commissioners hear our needs.

Sincerely,

Jim VanAntwerp  
Director, Fields Today, Fit Tomorrow

Sample of Post Card being sent:

***My child is a member of District IV Youth Soccer which includes 8 soccer clubs and 5000 soccer players within Kitsap County. District IV serves ages four to nineteen and is the one of the largest outdoor soccer districts in the State. Our organization engages thousands of Kitsap youth in healthy outdoor physical exercise that builds individual self-confidence and team-building skills.***

***Currently, District IV Youth Soccer juggles the limited number of fields available (managed by several different municipalities) with the high demand for practice and game fields. The few fields that do exist within reasonable driving distance are of varying quality and safety.***

***Please provide the support needed to increase the number of artificial turf fields in the county and the funding necessary to maintain our existing grass fields. This support is crucial to the long term health and appeal of living in Kitsap County.***

***Signed, Your Name***