

Topeka Horseshoe Association Relocation Project

The Topeka Horseshoe Association is having to relocate from Gage Park due to the expansion of the Topeka Zoo. Once the current facility is lost, the Topeka Horseshoe Association would not be able to host a league, local, regional, national or World Horseshoe Tournaments (see attached pictures of the existing facility).

1. Describe the project: The proposed new facility will have 24 full walkway horseshoe courts, 12 indoor horseshoe courts, restrooms and a parking lot. The new facility will also accommodate wheel chair horseshoe pitchers. The proposed location is in Crestview Park near the current BMX complex.
2. What is the total budget for the project? The total project is estimated at \$400,000.
3. What are the funding sources other than TGT dollars for this project?
The Topeka Horseshoe Association raises funds from Friends of Topeka Horseshoe Association and from hosting local, regional and World Horseshoe Tournaments. See attached 2015 horseshoe tournament schedule. It is anticipated that, with this new facility, the Topeka Horseshoe Association along with the city of Topeka and Shawnee County, would once again host the World Horseshoe Tournament in 2019.
4. How much TGT funding is requested? \$200,000.
5. What will the TGT funds be used for? To relocate the outdoor full walkway horseshoe courts from Gage Park to Crestview Park including: site prep, concrete work for 24 outdoor courts, building foundation for the 12 indoor courts and outdoor lighting. Non TGT funds will be used for completion of the 12 indoor courts, restrooms and a parking lot.
6. What are the economic development and tourism benefits to the City? Having multiple regional horseshoe tournaments brings in horseshoe pitchers from all parts of Kansas, Western Missouri, Nebraska and Northern Oklahoma. Hosting the 2015 World Horseshoe Tournament brought in 2.7 million dollars in to our community. Hotels, restaurants, grocery stores, tourism etc. all benefited.
7. What is the projected return on investment for the city (direct & indirect)? According to Visit Topeka, the direct impact from hosting the 2015 World Horseshoe Tournament was 2.7 million dollars. Indirect return is very high. Having ESPN Sports Center broadcast live from the Expocentre for 3 hours was very valuable. Receiving positive comments from visitors throughout the United States and Canada was also very valuable to Topeka. The 2015 World Horseshoe Tournament had the highest number of Junior (under 19) & Cadet (youth under 13) entries. Many Kansas youth benefited by learning the sport and participating in the 2015 World Horseshoe Tournament.
8. What is the timeline for the project? One year from securing funding.
9. How many visitors will come to your project? We estimate 300 for multiday regional tournaments and State Tournaments and over 5,000 visitors when hosting the World Horseshoe Tournaments.
10. How will your project create overnight stays at hotels? For the 2015 World Horseshoe Tournament we had approximately 5,000 room nights. For state & regional multiday tournaments participants and guest stay approximately 2 - 4 nights or approximately 300 room nights.
11. Is there additional information and / or materials, including pictures, other details, etc. that would be helpful to the committee? We will provide all information available on this project to the committee.