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Today, the City of Kansas City, Missouri and supporters of Kansas City's East High School celebrated a partnership which will renovate the school's football field and also help the City reduce sewer overflows.

The collaboration between the City and East High School initiated as City staff began making plans for infrastructure solutions to reduce the more than 6.4 billion gallons of annual sewer overflow in Kansas City.

"Reducing sewer overflows is a key component in revitalizing our community," said Councilman Quinton Lucas, Third District At-Large. "Kansas City is an innovator in creating infrastructure solutions that go beyond solving the issue at hand, the solutions also provide tangible benefits to the community."

East High School lies within the City's combined sewer area where rainwater and sewer water share the same infrastructure pipes. This combined sewer area is one of several project areas the City is targeting as part of its' largest infrastructure investment, the Smart Sewer program, which will reduce sewer overflows over a 25-year timeframe using both gray and green infrastructure solutions. While sewer overflows are an important issue, Kansas City's East High School has other needs—including an updated football field.

"East High School's coordination with the City will provide our students and our community with more than just the originally planned field renovations," said Jeffrey Spaletta, Principal. "At the completion of this project our students will also benefit from outdoor learning sites and visitors will no longer encounter flooding issues in the parking lot."

As part of the construction project, the City of Kansas City will install an underground storage system for field drainage that will consist of a piping network under the football field and track which will then be restored and updated by East High School. Additional green infrastructure elements will also be installed by the City to help protect the field and the parking lot from rainwater. These elements include rain gardens and wet ponds which will help contain and treat rainwater naturally.

After construction, East High School will maintain the green infrastructure solutions and use the installations as part of the school's curriculum.

Media inquiries should be directed to City Communications Director, Chris Hernandez, by [email](#) or by phone at 816-513-3474.