



MANHATTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC FACILITY ASSESSMENT

UNDERSTANDING CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Did You Know?

Input from coaches, staff, parents, students, and community stakeholders helped identify key challenges and opportunities with the current football and track and field facilities. Addressing these issues will guide future goals and long-term solutions.

1. Manhattan Schools received an Office of Civil Rights (OCR) complaint for lack of access at their athletic facilities.

The complaint identified concerns with access to the existing bleachers, facility amenities, and the track. The District is REQUIRED to remedy these conditions. Maintaining the facilities in their current state is NOT an option.

2. Track and Field has the highest student participation.

More students participate in track and field than in any other school sport, highlighting the importance of providing safe, functional, and inclusive facilities.

3. Based on current enrollments, Manhattan Schools may become a Class A district within the next 3–6 years.

Current enrollment data and projected growth indicate that the District is likely to transition classifications, which will place increased expectations on facilities and program capacity.

4. Students currently travel in personal vehicles to Belgrade for track and field practice due to limitations of the existing dirt track.

This creates safety, scheduling, and liability challenges, as students drive themselves to and from practice. Due to these safety and liability concerns, continued use of Belgrade's facilities is not sustainable, and it is only a matter of time before Manhattan no longer has access to them.

5. The existing dirt track prevents the District from hosting track meets.

Per Montana High School Association (MHSA) track regulations, the current site configuration does not provide sufficient space to construct a synthetic track that meets today's recommended standards. A longer and thinner synthetic track could be accommodated and would provide the ability to host meets, but would limit the District's ability to support future program needs, and educational growth.

6. Existing grass football field receives heavy use and is difficult to maintain.

High school and middle school programs share the field, leading to significant wear, muddy conditions, and reduced playability, all of which increase maintenance costs and effort to keep the field maintained.

7. Current track location conflicts with the long-range master plan.

The District's master plan anticipates future campus growth and identifies relocating the football and track facilities to the west side of the existing school to support future classroom expansion. Planned middle school expansion to the east will impact the existing facilities.



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PLANNING FOR THE LONG-TERM

Objectives

The objectives outlined below serve as key drivers for the planning process and guide the preferred long-term solution.

1. Provide ADA accessibility at all MHS athletic facilities.

Achieve ADA-compliant access to bleachers, facility amenities, and the track to address the OCR complaint and ensure equitable access for all users.

2. Provide safe, reliable, and on-campus facilities for student athletes.

Develop facilities that support football, softball, track and field, cross country, etc., which eliminates the need for students to travel off-site for practice and improves safety and scheduling reliability.

3. Support both school and community use.

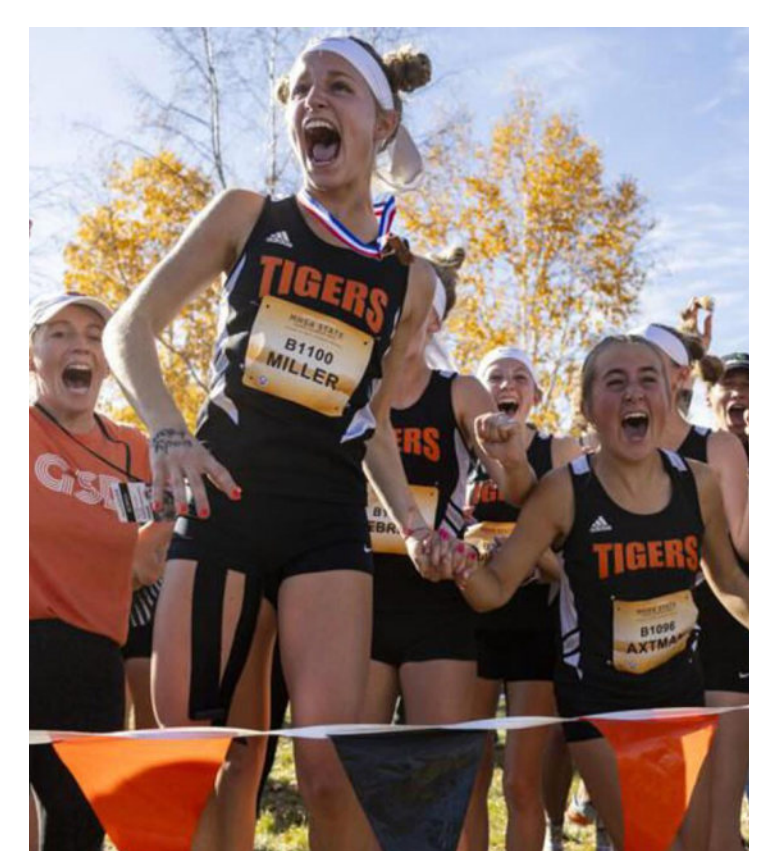
Create facilities capable of hosting tournaments for a multitude of sporting events as well as supporting home track meets, strengthening student opportunity, and community engagement.

4. Reduce long-term maintenance demands and improve field performance.

Implement durable field and facility solutions that withstand heavy use, minimize surface degradation and muddy conditions, and lower maintenance effort and operational costs.

5. Provide a long-term solution that aligns with future campus needs.

Provide a solutions-oriented design that aligns with the District's long-range master plan and allows future opportunities for additional programs, such as soccer, lacrosse, or other activities, within a thoughtfully planned athletics complex.





MANHATTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

ATHLETIC FACILITY ASSESSMENT

PROCESS AND PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Exploring Opportunities

Throughout the process, multiple options were explored and evaluated against the project goals. The following diagrams illustrate the scenarios reviewed with the District and key stakeholders.

OPTION 1 - ADA UPGRADES

This option focuses on relocating and updating the existing bleachers and improving ADA accessibility within the current football and track and field facilities. While this is the least expensive option, it does not address long-term needs or future campus growth.

GOAL CHECK

- ☒ ACHIEVE ADA ACCESSIBILITY
- ☐ IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY
- ☐ SUPPORT SCHOOL + COMMUNITY
- ☐ REDUCE FIELD MAINTENANCE
- ☐ PROVIDE A LONG TERM SOLUTION

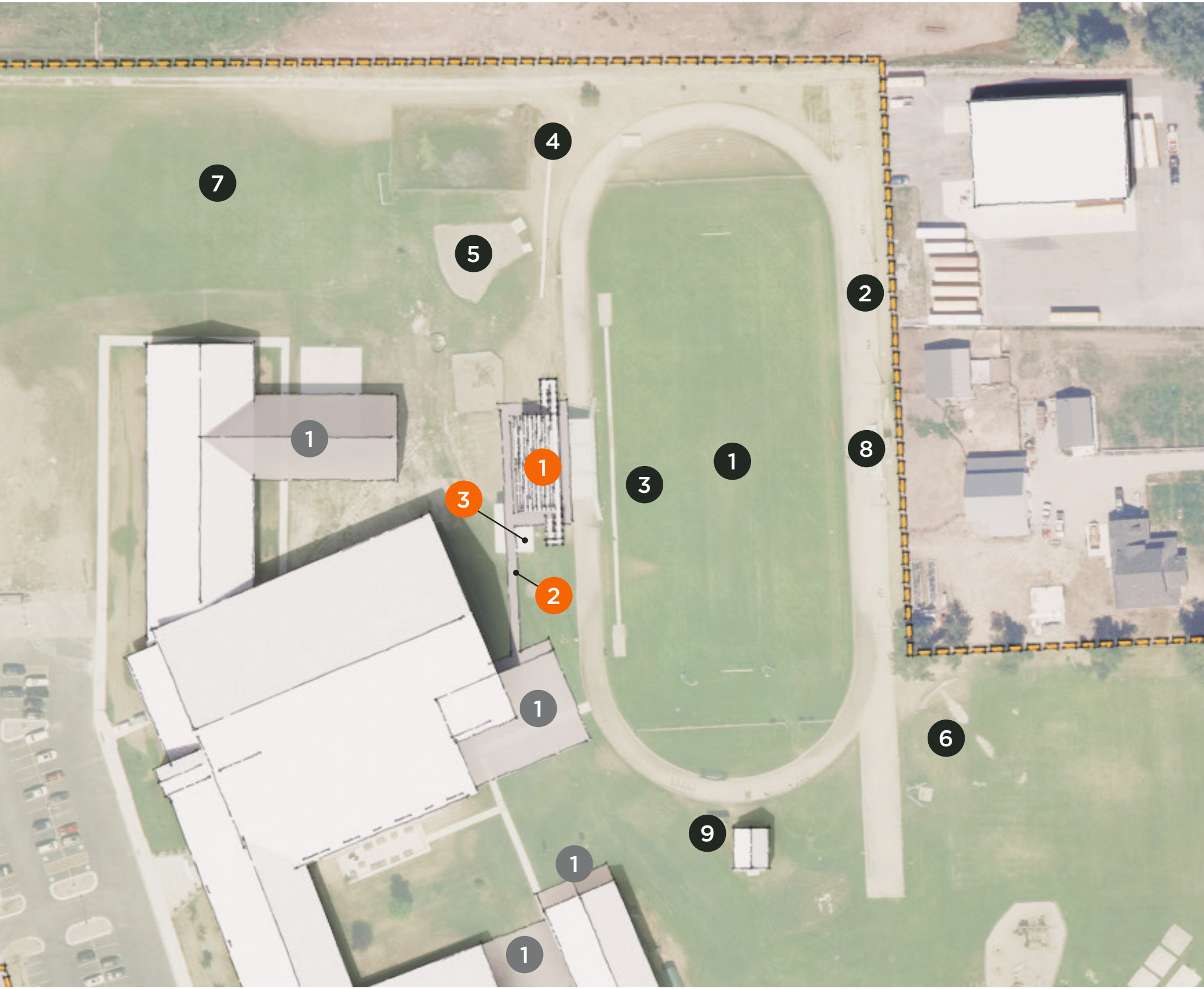
COST IMPACT = APPROX. \$1.5 MILLION

Based on a **\$500,000** (assessed value) Home:

\$1.87 / MONTH

\$22.44 / YEAR

Estimated tax impact.



LEGEND

New Work

- 1 ADA Accessible Bleachers (400 seats)
- 2 Provide Accessible Path to Track / Bleachers
- 3 Relocate Existing Storage Building

Existing Program

- 1 Existing Grass Football Field
- 2 Existing Dirt Track
- 3 Existing Long/Triple Jump
- 4 Existing Pole Vault
- 5 Existing Shot Put
- 6 Existing Discus
- 7 Existing Javelin
- 8 Existing Bleachers
- 9 Existing Scoreboard

Potential Future Expansion

- 1 Potential Future Education Addition

OPTION 2 - ADA UPGRADES WITH TRACK RESURFACING

This option includes relocating and updating the existing bleachers, improving ADA accessibility, and resurfacing the track with an eight-lane synthetic surface. While more expensive than Option 1, this option allows athletes to practice on-site and the District to host meets, but the track dimensions do not meet today's recommended standards and this option does not provide a long-term solution.

GOAL CHECK

- ☒ ACHIEVE ADA ACCESSIBILITY
- ☒ IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY
- ☒ SUPPORT SCHOOL + COMMUNITY
- ☐ REDUCE FIELD MAINTENANCE
- ☐ PROVIDE A LONG TERM SOLUTION

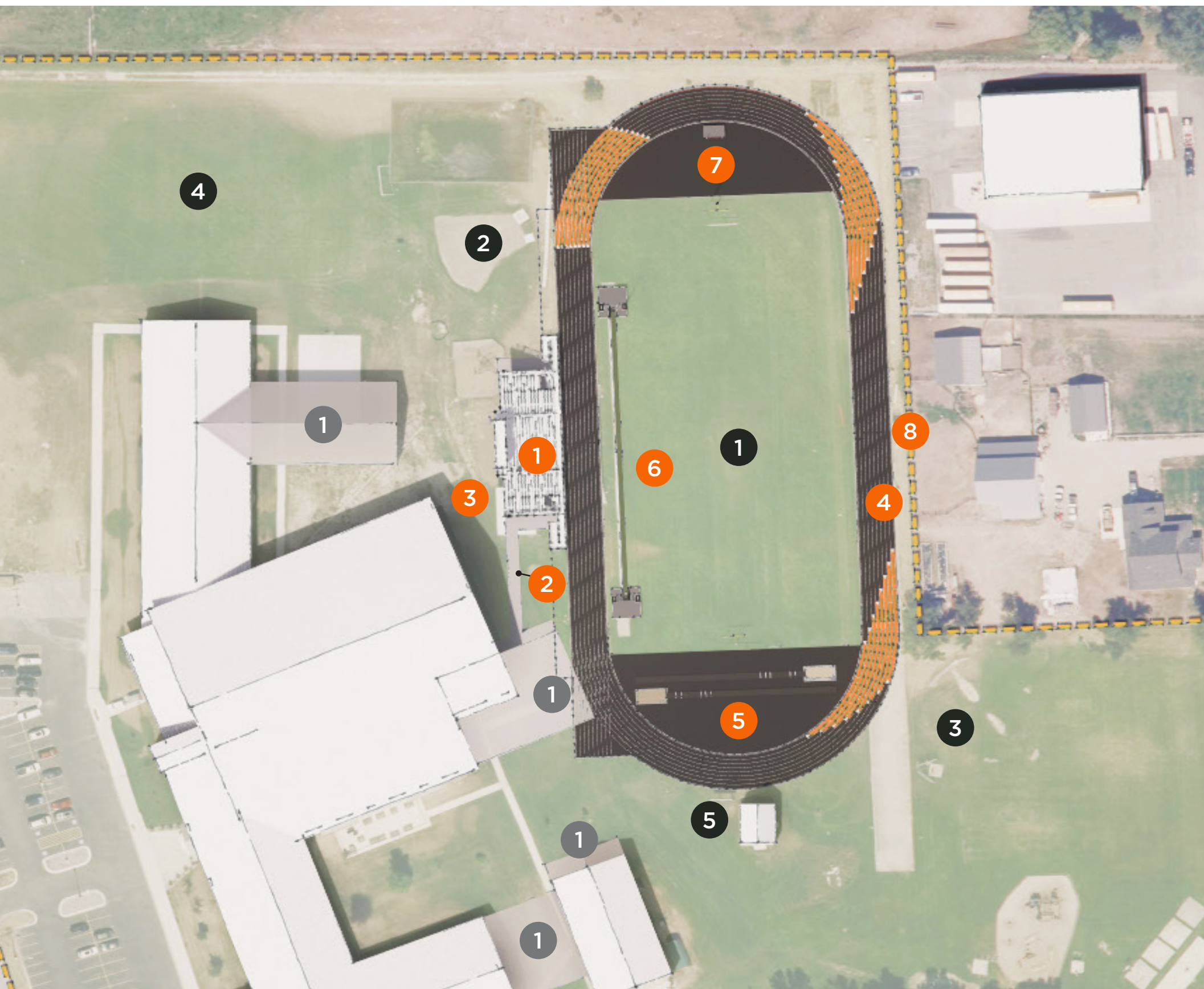
COST IMPACT = APPROX. \$3.5 MILLION

Based on a **\$500,000** (assessed value) Home:

\$4.37 / MONTH

\$52.36 / YEAR

Estimated tax impact.



LEGEND

New Work

- 1 New Bleachers (1,500 seats)
- 2 Provide Accessible Path to Track / Bleachers
- 3 Relocate Existing Storage Building
- 4 New Synthetic Track (8 Lanes)
- 5 New Long / Triple Jump
- 6 New Pole Vault
- 7 New High Jump
- 8 Remove Existing Bleachers

Existing Program

- 1 Existing Grass Football Field
- 2 Existing Shot Put
- 3 Existing Discus
- 4 Existing Javelin
- 5 Existing Scoreboard

Potential Future Expansion

- 1 Potential Future Education Addition



MANHATTAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

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PROCESS AND PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

OPTION 3 - NEW ATHLETIC FACILITY

This option proposes constructing a new athletic facility west of the existing school. While more expensive than Option 2, it allows athletes to practice on-site, increases availability of the turf field for practice, provides adjacent amenities, supports hosting track meets and community events, and offers a long-term solution aligned with District goals.

GOAL CHECK

- ☒ ACHIEVE ADA ACCESSIBILITY
- ☒ IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY
- ☒ SUPPORT SCHOOL + COMMUNITY
- ☒ REDUCE FIELD MAINTENANCE
- ☒ PROVIDE A LONG TERM SOLUTION

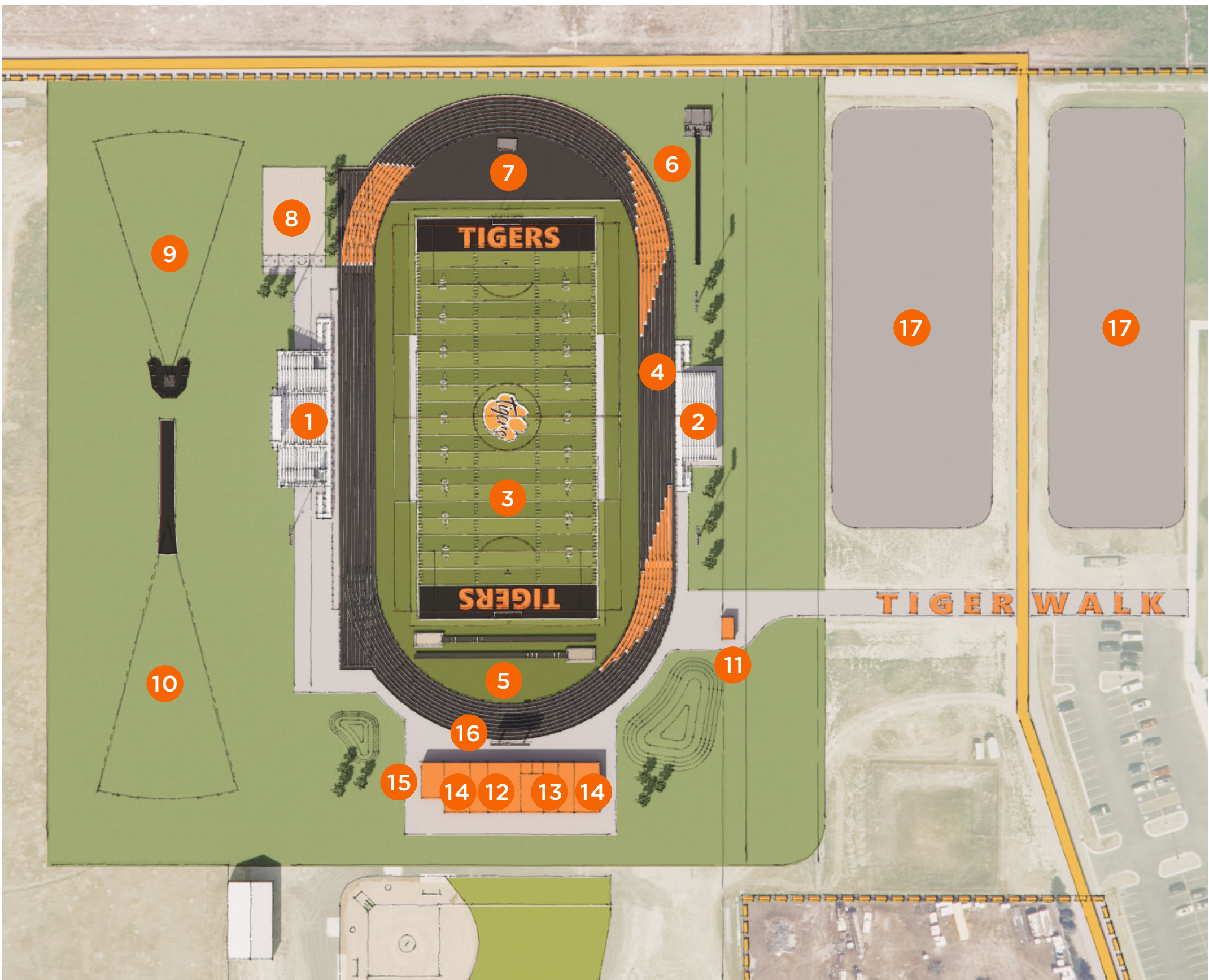
COST IMPACT = APPROX. \$11.4 MIL

Based on a **\$500,000** (assessed value) Home:

\$14.21 / MONTH

\$170.53 / YEAR

Estimated tax impact.



LEGEND

New Work

- 1 Bleachers West Side (1,000 seats)
- 2 Bleachers East Side (500 seats)
- 3 Turf Football Field
- 4 Synthetic Track (8 Lanes)
- 5 Long / Triple Jump
- 6 Pole Vault
- 7 High Jump
- 8 Shot Put
- 9 Discus
- 10 Javelin
- 11 Ticketing
- 12 Restrooms
- 13 Storage (Football, Site, Track)
- 14 Warming Rooms
- 15 Concessions
- 16 Scoreboard
- 17 Parking

OPTION 4 - EXPANDED NEW ATHLETIC FACILITY

This option expands on Option 3 by constructing a new athletic facility west of the existing school with additional locker rooms and supporting amenities. While the most expensive option, it allows for on-site practice, greater flexibility for field use, and the ability to host larger meets and events, providing a comprehensive long-term solution.

GOAL CHECK

- ☒ ACHIEVE ADA ACCESSIBILITY
- ☒ IMPROVE STUDENT SAFETY
- ☒ SUPPORT SCHOOL + COMMUNITY
- ☒ REDUCE FIELD MAINTENANCE
- ☒ PROVIDE A LONG TERM SOLUTION

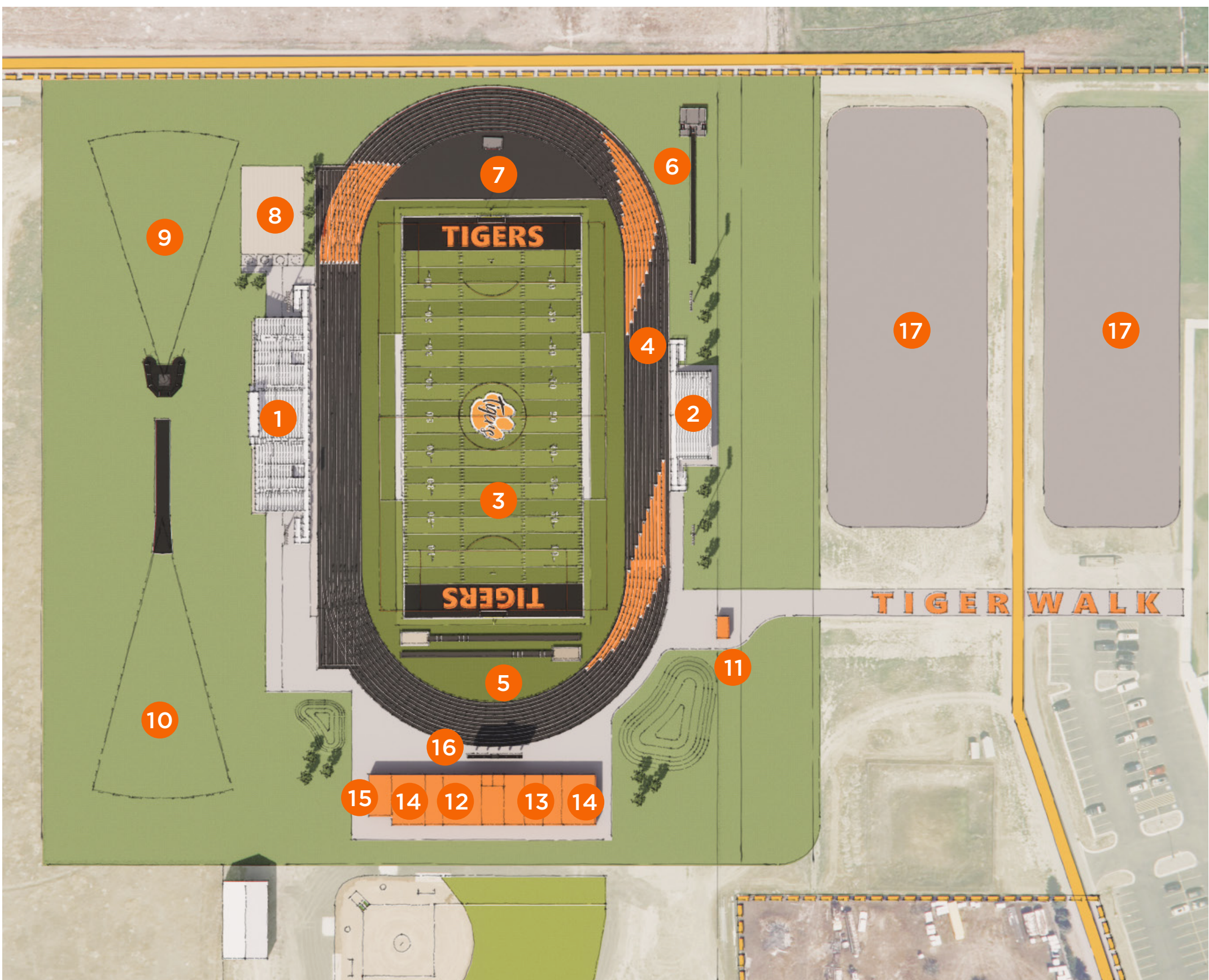
COST IMPACT = APPROX. \$14.2 MIL

Based on a **\$500,000** (assessed value) Home:

\$17.70 / MONTH

\$212.41 / YEAR

Estimated tax impact.



LEGEND

New Work

- 1 Bleachers West Side (1,500 seats)
- 2 Bleachers East Side (500 seats)
- 3 Turf Football Field
- 4 Synthetic Track (10 Lanes)
- 5 Long / Triple Jump
- 6 Pole Vault
- 7 High Jump
- 8 Shot Put
- 9 Discus
- 10 Javelin
- 11 Ticketing
- 12 Restrooms
- 13 Storage (Football, Site, Track)
- 14 Locker Rooms
- 15 Concessions
- 16 Scoreboard
- 17 Parking

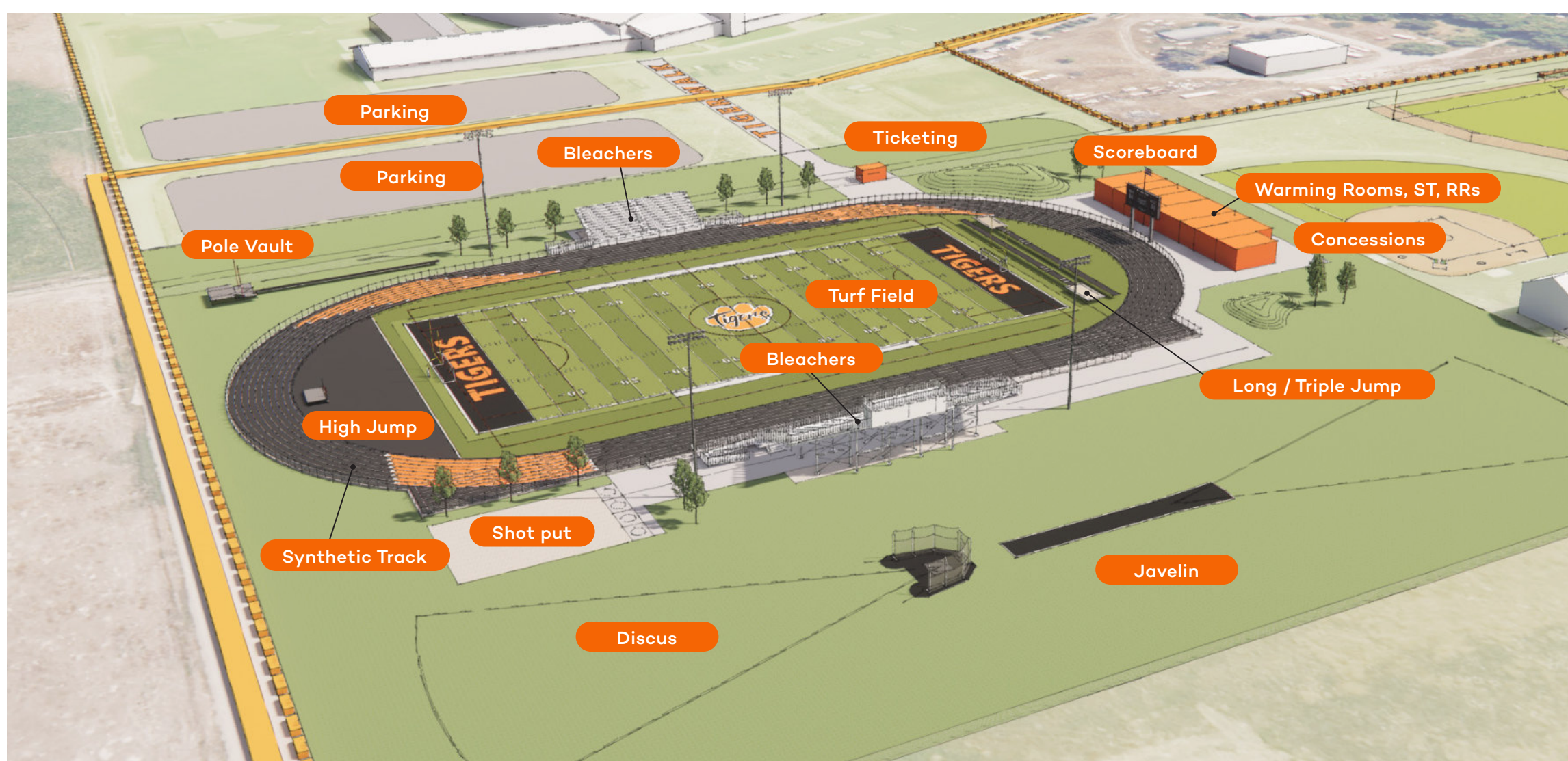
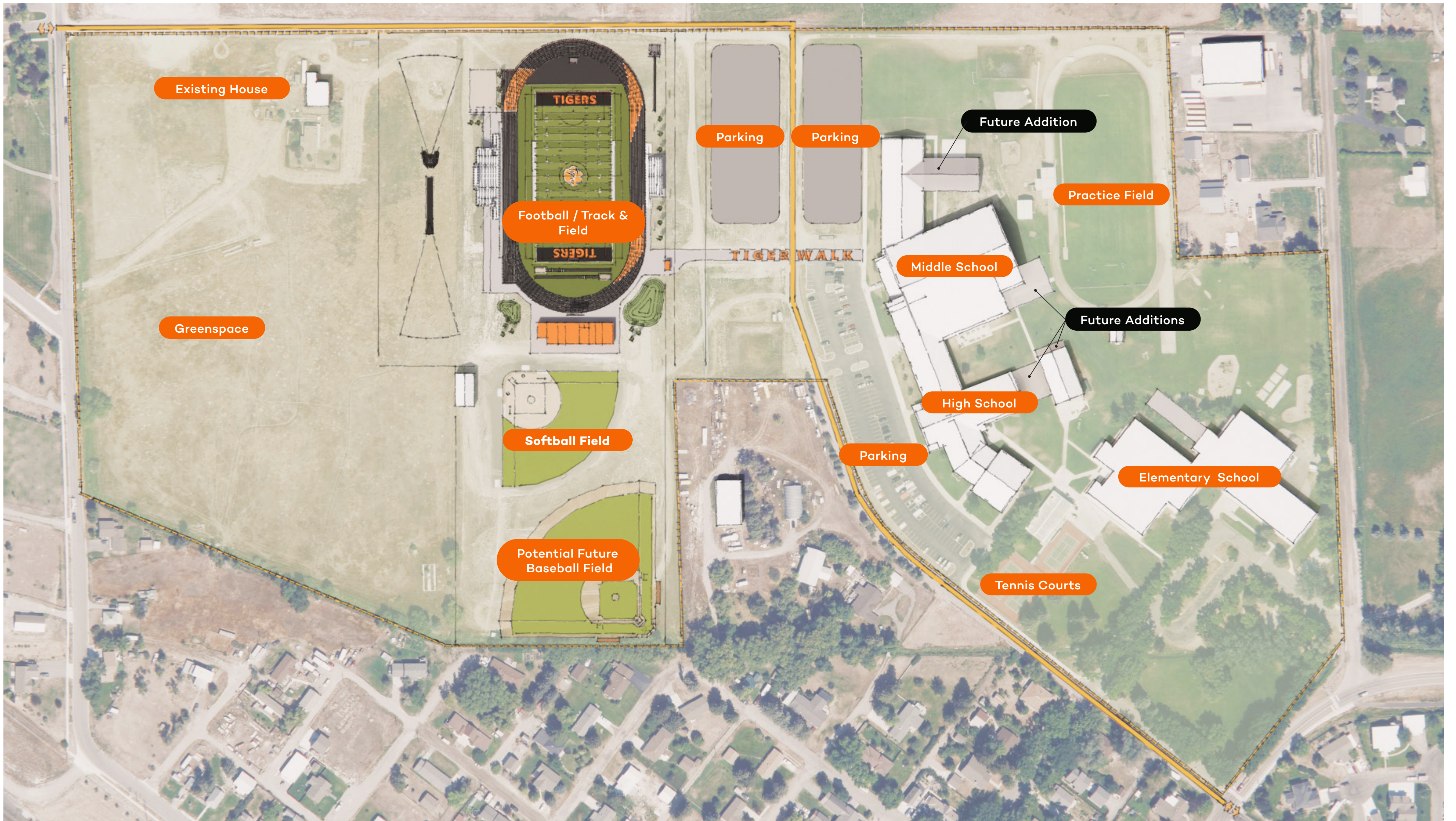


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PROPOSED OPTION FOR LONG TERM SOLUTION

Option 3 Proposed Solution



Estimated project tax impact.

Please note that the estimated tax impact is based on your state assessed home value, not market value.

Based on a **\$500,000** (assessed value) Home:

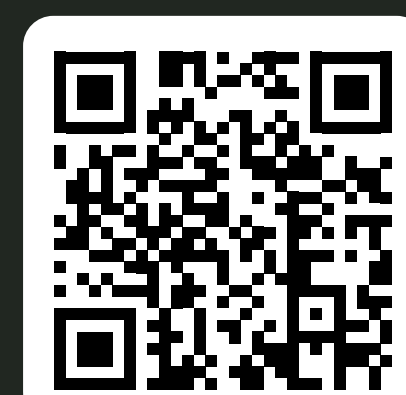


\$14.21 / MONTH



\$170.53 / YEAR

For additional information on the assessed value of your home go here or scan the QR Code:
svc.mt.gov/dor/property/prc



To learn more visit:
<https://www.rollontigers.org>
or scan the QR Code

