



**What is the goal of Sunflower Soccer Association?**

To provide recreational and competitive soccer opportunities for the youth of Topeka and the surrounding area.

**I have heard that SSA is a private company; is that true?**

Yes, SSA is a non-profit 501(c)3 association that is governed by a board of trustees and bylaws. Day to day operations are overseen by one full time director and a part-time registrar.

**How long has SSA been around?**

Sunflower Soccer Association has, in cooperation with the City of Topeka, provided recreational and competitive soccer opportunities for the children of Topeka and Shawnee County since 1983. Thousands of youth soccer players have played and will continue to play at the facility.

**What type of improvements are desired for the facility?**

In an effort to improve the overall experience of the children and families who participate in our programs, attend our tournaments and cheer on their children, the Sunflower Soccer Association is seeking to improve our infrastructure and amenities at the soccer complex. These improvements include building a permanent restroom and concession stand facility, administrative office space, equipment storage, and improving the parking lot to better accommodate patrons.

**Why does the project cost so much?**

The project includes sewer extension to the complex and locating the facility above the floodplain. Due to the location in the Kansas River floodplain, all new structures must be constructed above the flood zone. This means the building will be approximately seven foot higher than the fields and parking lot.

**The Capital-Journal reported that the Topeka Lodging Association supports a transient guest tax increase of 1% to pay for the improvements. Is that true?**

Yes, but it's not that simple. The 1% is not and will not fund the entire project. We have additional revenue to help offset the debt service. With the recommendation of the Topeka Lodging Association and with the support of Visit Topeka, Inc., the Sunflower Soccer Association is requesting a 1% increase in the guest tax to assist in funding the complex improvements.

**Have you talked with the City or the County?**

Yes. Over the past few years we have been working with the City and the County to help devise a plan that meets the requirements of the city and county to bring the facility up to compliance. This includes a permanent restroom facility.

**What kind of impact does SSA have on the City?**

Aside from a safe place for kids to play soccer, we have an economic impact of approximately \$3.2million annually. For over 20 years the Governor's Cup Invitational Soccer Tournament has contributed to the economic impact of the City of Topeka through visiting players and their families utilizing our hotels, restaurants and retail facilities.

**I have more questions!**

If you should have any questions regarding this initiative, please feel free to contact us at [cogonowski@sunflowersoccer.kscoxmail.com](mailto:cogonowski@sunflowersoccer.kscoxmail.com).

Office Phone:  
785.233.9700

Sunflowersoccer.org  
[cogonowski@sunflowersoccer.kscoxmail.com](mailto:cogonowski@sunflowersoccer.kscoxmail.com)

Office Hours:  
Mon – Thurs. 10a-3p