



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

6A

Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: December 17, 2024

Title of Item: Consider funding request- ISD #1

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA	Action Requested: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only
Submitted by: Mark Jeffers		Department: Economic Development
Presenter (Name and Title): Mark Jeffers, Economic Development Coordinator		Estimated Time Needed: 5 minutes
Summary of Issue: <p>Dan Stifter, Superintendent ISD #1, met with the Economic Development Committee to formally request that the County partner with ISD #1 by contributing 25% of the cost (\$10,500) for the Costin Group for lobbying services.</p> <p>The lobbying efforts will focus on securing support from the IRRR and the Legislature in 2025.</p> <p>The Economic Development Committee does not recommend approval to fund this project at this time and has offered additional ways that the County can support this project through communication and collaboration with Legislators.</p>		
Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments: 		
Recommended Action/Motion: Approve or deny motion to fund ISD #1 project \$10,500 for the Costin Group.		
Financial Impact: Is there a cost associated with this request? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ \$10,500 Is this budgeted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i>		



**WE ARE
AITKIN**
Long-Range Facilities Planning

**AITKIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AITKIN COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

November 27, 2024



Aitkin Public Schools Recent Board Goals

School District Strategic Plan that involve facilities:

Goal 8: Increase community and business partnerships.

Goal 9: Implement and communicate the Strategic and Facilities Plan that support the district priorities and identify the needs of our district.

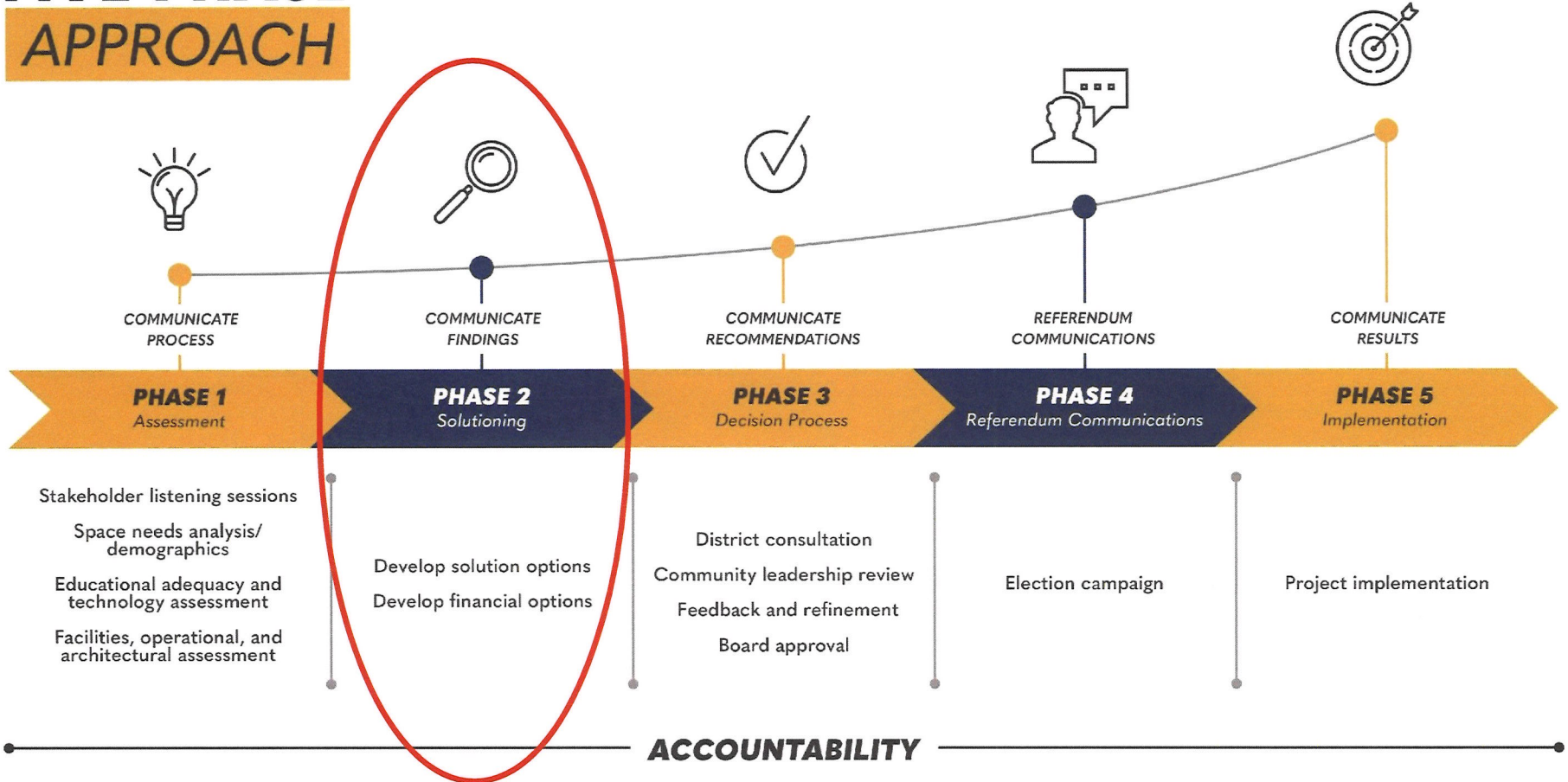
Goal 11: Address safety and facility needs and upgrades.

Goal 12: Promote financial stability.

Goal 13: Create a plan for the future of Aitkin Public School Facilities.



FIVE-PHASE APPROACH



OPTIONS - ESTIMATES ONLY

ROUGH COST OF THREE OPTIONS

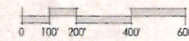
These numbers are only for relative comparison only. No decisions have been made at this time!

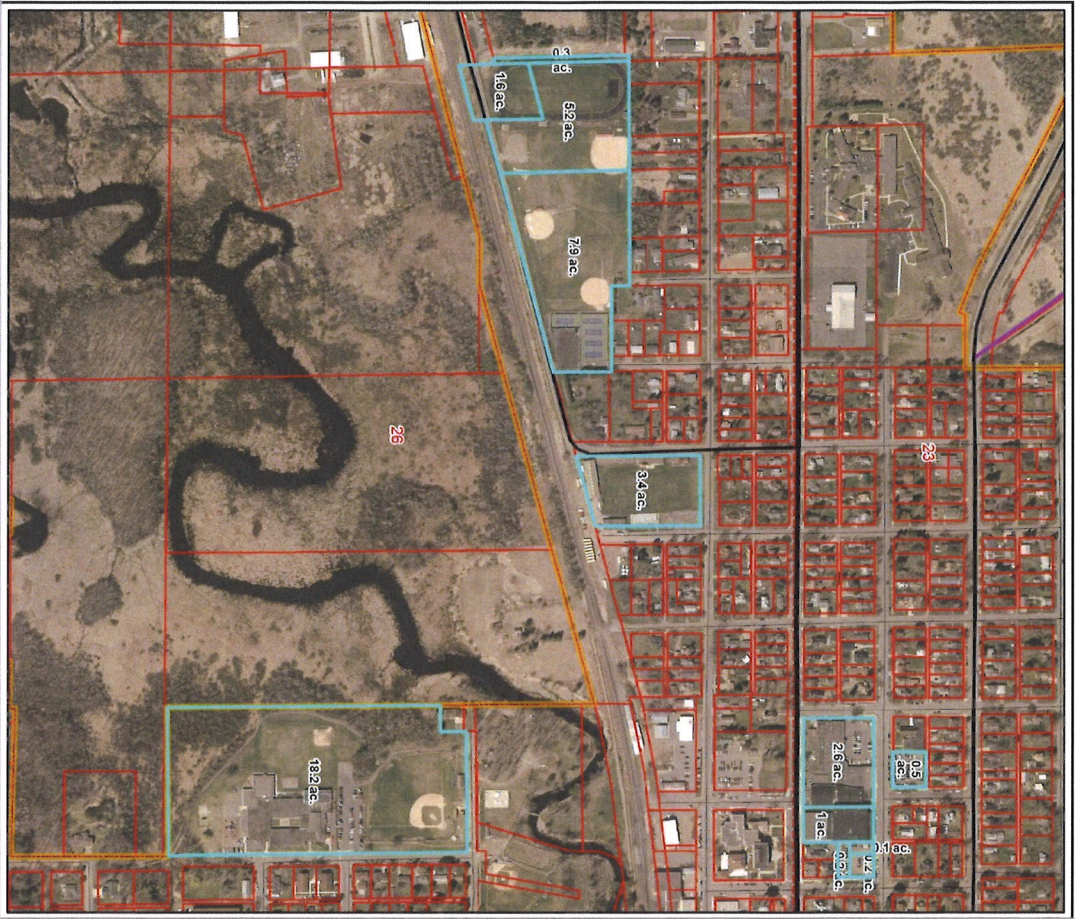
Op1 =	<u>\$62,506,500</u>	Pk-6 / Bus Garage
Op1 + Op2 =	<u>\$126,511,100</u>	Pk-12 / Bus Garage
Op1 + Op2 + Op3 =	<u>\$133,584,100</u>	Pk-12 / Bus Garage / Auditorium
Op1 + Op2 + Op3 + Op4 =	<u>\$144,566,600</u>	Pk-12 / Bus Garage / Auditorium / Athletics

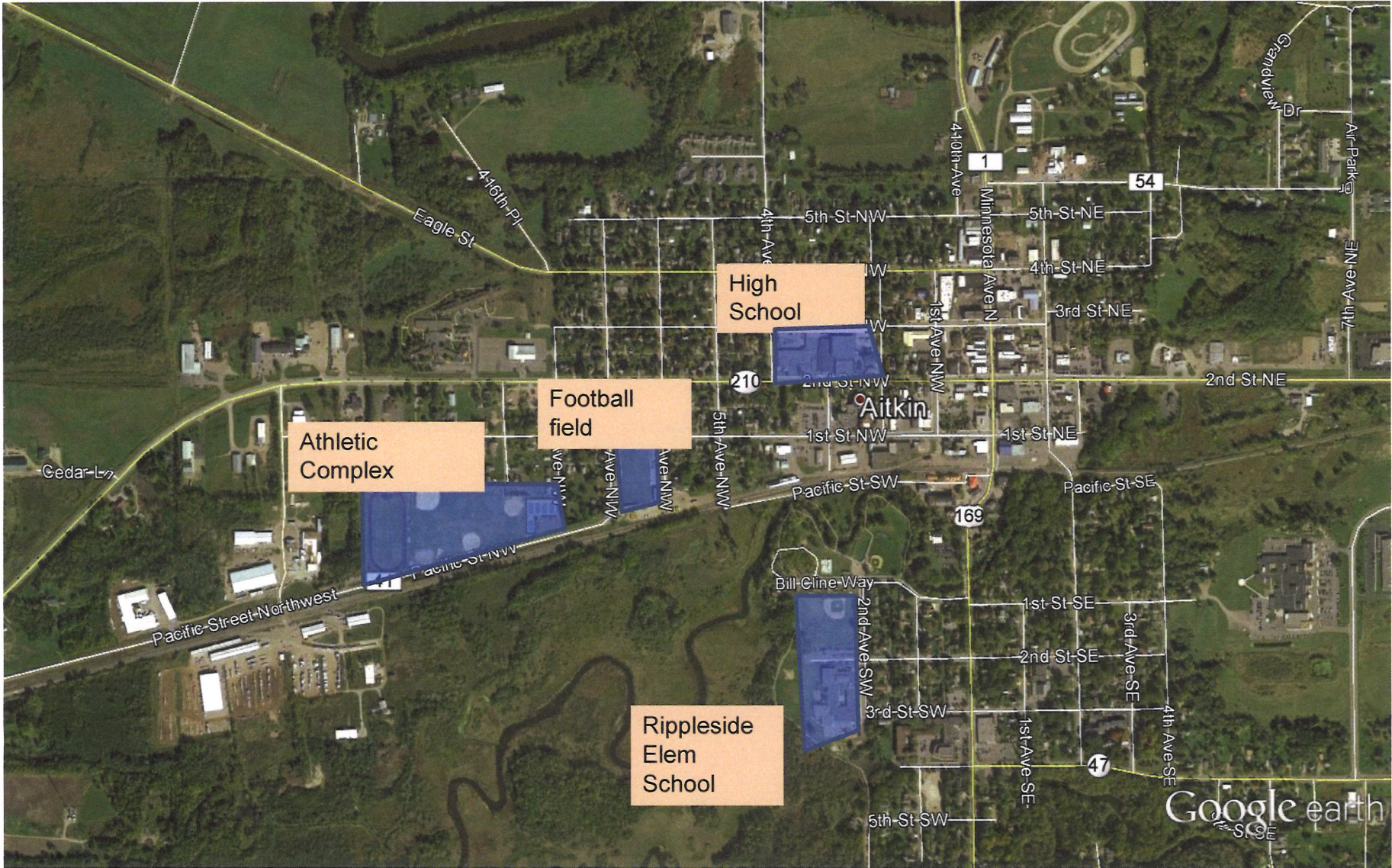




AITKIN SCHOOLS
CONCEPTUAL SITE PLAN - SCHEME C
 SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 | JLG 21222 | © 2021 JLG ARCHITECTS









What is in it for the County?

The development of a new school and the surrounding property offers several potential benefits for the county, including:

- **Increased Tax Base:**
 - The current school facilities sit on approximately 41 acres within city limits.
 - A portion of the 220-acre new site, not needed for school facilities, could be repurposed and contribute to the tax base.
- **Enhanced Property Value:**
 - Taxable land from the unused portion of the district's property could be utilized for development.
 - Opportunities for a housing development on this land could further boost property values.
- **Strengthening the Aitkin Area Community:**
 - This project aligns with broader goals to enhance the community and its infrastructure.

By working together as a team, we increase our chances of securing financial support from both the IRRR and the state legislature.

What's in it for the Hospital?

The development of a new school and surrounding property offers several potential benefits for the hospital, including:

- **Housing Opportunities:**
 - Creation of housing options to address staffing needs.
- **Modern Educational Facilities:**
 - State-of-the-art schools that can attract hospital employees and their families to the area.
- **Potential Partnership for a Wellness Space:**
 - Opportunities to collaborate on a wellness area for community residents.
- **Enhanced Quality of Life:**
 - Improved amenities and infrastructure to benefit residents throughout the Aitkin area.
 - Improve the ability to recruit and retain professional and technical workers



What is in it for the City?



The development of a new school and surrounding property presents several potential benefits for the city, including:

- **Infrastructure Expansion:**
 - Provides opportunities to extend city infrastructure.
 - Potential to create a connected infrastructure loop on the south end of the city.
- **Increased Tax Base:**
 - The current school facilities encompass approximately 41 acres within city limits.
 - A portion of the 220-acre new site, not needed for school facilities, could be repurposed, adding taxable land.
- **Enhanced Property Value:**
 - The availability of unused district land creates opportunities for development, including potential housing projects.
- **Strengthening the Aitkin Area Community:**
 - This initiative supports the growth and betterment of the city, benefiting residents and local stakeholders alike.

Scope of the project and Proposal

On behalf of Aitkin Public Schools, I am requesting that the county partner with us by contributing 25% of the cost—\$10,500—for the Costin Group to lobby on behalf of the Aitkin community. The lobbying efforts will focus on securing support from the IRRR and the Legislature in 2025.

This project will have far-reaching benefits for the Aitkin community, including the development of modern school facilities and creating space to support future city and county growth.

At this stage, we need clarity on our partnership. Will this be a joint effort to secure funding for Aitkin, or will the school district proceed without the county's support?



ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

