



JESSE TINSLEY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

**Prairie View Community Park, a county facility, has a baseball and softball diamond, beach volleyball courts, pickleball courts, a basketball court and a playground, in addition to the Southside Family Aquatic Center, situated between Freya Street and the Palouse Highway, south of 61st Avenue in Spokane County.**

## GLENROSE

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and increased traffic on rural county roads it would bring.

"Traffic on the South Hill is a real challenge," said Glenrose Community Association President Bob Hyslop. "We've got a lot of concerns."

One of those concerns is the proposed stadium lighting at the complex to allow night games. "How in the world can somebody justify lighting up this area like that?" Hyslop said. "It's just totally out of character. People up here are livid about it."

They expect noise from cheering fans to also be an issue. "We sit in a bowl, so the noise reverberates all over the place," he said.

Both Glenrose and 37th

Avenue are two-lane roads without shoulders and Hyslop said he's worried about the intersection becoming overwhelmed by traffic. "We have county roads," he said. "They're going to have to be changed significantly."

Helean said his organization needs to raise \$6.5 million to begin construction. "We're working with donors to build a much-needed facility for kids," he said. "We've got all the permits. Everything's been approved."

A check of the documents on file with the Spokane County planning office, however, show that no permits have been granted since a grading permit was approved in 2010.

Asked to clarify his

comment, Helean said he meant to say that the zoning for the property has been approved, though he acknowledged that no zoning change has been sought.

"The county is fine with us developing a sports complex there," he said.

SYSA had a pre-application meeting with Spokane County planners last fall and was given a list of requirements to fulfill, including doing a traffic study. Roads in the area would also have to be widened and improved, the county stated.

No permits will be issued until the required studies are complete, and Helean said he does not know when those requirements will be met.

Helean said he just wants to create playfields that are

needed in the community. "We're excited to provide new sports opportunities for kids," he said. "It's definitely needed in the community. Kids who play sports do better in school and do better in life."

Despite the conflict that has existed, Hyslop said his group is willing to work with SYSA on planning the complex so it creates a lesser impact.

"I think it's both in our best interests to do that," he said. "It's their property and within the boundary of the county codes, they can do what they like. I think there will be something there. The \$64 question is, what will it look like?"

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**  
ncluver47@gmail.com