

Secretary Sullivan Announces \$500,000 PARC Grant for Medford

MEDFORD – Monday, October 31, 2011 – Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary (EEA) Richard K. Sullivan Jr. today announced a \$500,000 grant will be awarded to the city of Medford as the part of the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program.

The grant will be used to support a \$930,000 installation a synthetic, or turf, multi-purpose field at Hormel Stadium.

“On behalf of the Patrick-Murray Administration, it gives me great pleasure to award this grant to Medford for a project that will revitalize key open space used by many of the city’s young people for recreation,” said Secretary Sullivan. “I want to thank Mayor McGlynn and city legislators for partnering with us at EEA to make this happen.”

Since Governor Deval Patrick took office in 2007, EEA has invested over \$32 million in PARC grants to support communities in renovating or developing 108 parks.

The PARC Program (formerly the Urban Self-Help Program) was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes. Financed by Massachusetts environmental bond fund, the program was created to support land acquisition and the construction, or renovation of recreation facilities – such as swimming pools, zoos, athletic fields and playgrounds.

“The PARC Program picked an excellent project to invest in, one which will benefit Medford High School, young people involved in local sports leagues, and the community as a whole,” said Sen. Patricia Jehlen. “Upgrading Hormel Stadium, including the installation of a synthetic field surface, will allow for more usage and provide much better and safer field conditions, especially in the spring and the fall when our weather can often make maintaining natural grass fields difficult and expensive.”

"This grant provides a great opportunity for the residents of Medford to utilize and to enjoy the field at Hormel Stadium for many future years", said Rep. Paul J. Donato.

The application process for PARC grants is open each spring to all 351 cities and towns across the Commonwealth.