Due to heavy use, the Lincoln Street fields in Lexington, MA were in disrepair despite the well intentioned care of the maintenance staff. With the town’s expanding population and increasing participation in recreation programs, the fields had reached a state beyond repair. Countered with the loss of other Town fields to school construction projects, a large-scale renovation project for this multipurpose, three-field complex became a necessity.

One challenge the renovation team faced was location of the fields. Because the project is located on the site of a former capped landfill, it was necessary to mitigate any potential settlement problems by carefully detailing the field profile and specifying non-traditional construction techniques. This included special site preparation techniques featuring deep dynamic compaction and a combination of static and vibratory rolling as well as the inclusion of a special heavy-duty woven geotextile base to mitigate subsurface settlement.

The team of geotechnical and civil engineers led by Geller Sport determined that infilled synthetic turf would be the best option in order to alleviate the stresses placed on the fields due to foot traffic. The newly renovated project, with a price tag of $3.4 million, includes a new and expanded parking lot to accommodate 232 cars, a tot lot and picnic area, and a fitness and nature trail through adjacent meadows and wetlands. The existing topsoil of the original fields was stripped and reused to create spectator and planting mounds to screen the fields from neighboring residential properties as well as to prevent unwanted vehicles from driving on the synthetic turf.