

On behalf of the Charlestown Little League program I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit a request to light up our field. From the top of Bunker Hill our kids can see the aura of lights at Fenway Park and the great job that Granite City does for the Red Sox and we would love for you to do the same for our little league field.

The Charlestown Little League program has been in existence for over fifty years and provides a competitive program of little league baseball for over 150 inner city youth every year. Charlestown covers approximately one square mile and we have some of the most competitive athletes in the City of Boston. Our program is growing every year as we reach out to the youth of our community to provide an alternative to some of the less desirable activities which city kids sometimes fall prey to. We have a strong minor league as well as Junior/Senior league baseball program and some of our baseball players have gone on to play at Division I and II high schools as well as the local Yawkey Baseball League.

The park where the field is located is owned by the City of Boston and it is the only little league field in Charlestown, one of Boston's most urban inner city neighborhoods. The field had been in horrible condition for many years and it was recently reconstructed. (see attached picture) It took nearly two years to complete the project. During that time our players had to share one minor league and one softball diamond. We were promised that lights for the little league field would be provided as part of the reconstruction. However, after the tragic events of 911 the funds for the lights were no longer available. As a result, our little leaguers won't get the chance to experience the thrill of playing "under the lights" until they reach Junior or Senior league age when the magic of little league baseball starts to fade.

Our players just finished their second season on the new field and they still ask, "When will we be able to play under the lights?" The Charlestown Little League program does not receive funds from the City of Boston and can barely cover the operating expenses from year to year. Through the generous donations from residents and local businesses we are able to continue the program each year but to undertake the project of funding lights for our field is certainly monumental if not "outta the park".

We are grateful that Granite City Electric Supply Company has generously provided this opportunity to compete for a chance to make our little leaguers dreams come true. Help make our little league field truly a "Field of Dreams". May the best team win!!

Sincerely,

David Cahill
President
Charlestown Little League

