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## First stage of highly anticipated county sports park opens!

By Bill Melugin EL PASO, Texas

The first stage of the long anticipated new El Paso county sports park located near Saul Kleinfeld Drive and Zaragoza Road has finally opened.

Two of the county commissioners who helped initiate and implement the new venue were on hand to celebrate by throwing the ceremonial first pitches of the spring T-ball season at the new fields.

"This is just a beautiful, beautiful venue and I'm so proud of the way it's turned out. I'm very proud of the builder, a construction company called Sunlight Enterprises, and to this day we have not had one penny of a change order, so it's very good for us taxpayers," said Carlos Leon, a county commissioner.

"There's a refreshed concession stand, refreshed restaurants, refreshed bathrooms, really an upgraded, comfortable park for the families of El Paso that have waited so patiently for this day to happen," said former county commissioner Anna Perez.

The county took over the sports park in 2002 when it was in poor condition, but the county spent about \$7.5 million for the upgrades and renovations.

The second stage of the upgrades will bring in new fields for the older kids, and will also sport a brand-new clubhouse. Those additions are expected to be completed by mid-August.

"It's really about the kids, and I just appreciate the opportunity to be here and see it for myself and I look forward to the day when my 4-year-old baby gets to play here," said Perez.

"This is part of quality of life improvements in El Paso, and what you see is just something we can be proud of," Leon said.



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