



VILLAGE OF FREEPORT
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To whom it may concern:

In the summer and fall of 2008 the Village of Freeport installed an air supported structure that is approximately 30,000 square feet at the Village of Freeport Recreation Center. The new air structure was designed to replace an older air structure that was deficient in many ways. As a result of these deficiencies the Mayor, William F. Glacken, and the four trustees of the Village decided to have designed and constructed for the Village an air supported structure that would provide residents of the Village with an ice rink as well as a year round facilities for soccer, and other recreational activities.

The Mayor and trustees along with the Village Engineer, Robert R. Fisenne P.E., hired a prominent architect, experienced with air supported structures and municipal facilities, this architect conducted an architectural study which also included interviews with recreational users in the Village of Freeport as well as residents. The results of this study were very positive and a recommendation was made to build an air supported structure along with several key requirements that consisted of a requirement for air conditioning, a requirement for an insulated structure that would be more green and more cost effective, a requirement for much better lighting than had previously existed, a requirement for redundancy in backup systems for inflation support of the facility, requirements for heating that would make the facility more useable by residents etc. The results of the study, in addition to looking very closely at the use of air supported structures, also investigated the possibility of a masonry buildings or buildings with steel roofs or buildings with fabric roofs and various other alternatives, but the conclusion of the study was that many of these alternatives would cost \$12 million or more whereas the cost to the village of the air structure itself was \$800,000, between one tenth and one fifteenth as much.

The Village of Freeport selected the Arizon Companies of St. Louis, Missouri to manufacture and install the air structure and is very happy with the results. The Arizon Companies, in addition to being experts in the manufacturing and installation of air structures are also manufactures of air conditioning and heating systems which met the criteria established by the Village of Freeport.

The entire Village of Freeport is now using the new air supported structure and for example, on Friday nights it's not unusual for there to be 200 children using the ice rink. On Saturday nights are family nights which make it possible for entire families to come and enjoy the air supported structures recreational facilities.

Adjacent to the air supported structure the Village has other recreational facilities including weight rooms, aerobic facilities, an indoor and outdoor swimming pool, gymnasium and the like.

All in all, the Village of Freeport is very pleased with its new air supported structure and the fact that it was completed on time and within budget.

Robert R. Fisenne P.E.