

Date: January 19, 2009



TO: Board Members – Vancouver Park Board
FROM: General Manager – Parks and Recreation
SUBJECT: 2009 Advance Approval for Capital Expenditure

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Board request City Council to approve capital spending of \$6,130,000 for current projects, as described in this Report, in advance of final approval of the 2009 capital budget.

POLICY

The Park Board's capital spending program is outlined in the 2009-2011 Capital Plan, approved by the voters in the November 2008 election. In each of the three years of the Capital Plan an annual Capital Budget is prepared for Board and Council approval.

The Park Board sets spending priorities within the Council-approved budget envelope, consistent with the program objectives outlined in the Capital Plan plebiscite question and formal agreements with partner agencies.

BACKGROUND

The 2009-2011 Park Board Capital Plan totals \$89,350,000, comprised of the following allocations:

Electorate-approved borrowing for Parks and Recreation Capital Projects	\$59,575,000
Capital from Operating	\$8,940,000
City-wide Development Cost Levy (DCL)	\$20,790,000
TOTAL	\$89,305,000

The proposed 2009 Capital Budget is currently being prepared for Board and Council consideration in the Spring, after review and approval of the 2009 Operating Budget. In the meantime, funding commitments are required for some projects which, for the reasons outlined in this report, need to be tendered or otherwise initiated before the Capital Budget approval is secured.

DISCUSSION

Advance spending approval is sought for Capital Plan projects for which, either because of a need to;

- (a) address urgent condition issues,
- (b) complete construction before a peak seasonal demand, or
- (c) design or tender for later construction during the summer dry period work should not be delayed until after current year Capital Budget approval is secured.

The projects in the 2009-2011 Capital Plan for which immediate funding is required are described on the following table:

#	Capital Plan Program and Project /Rationale	Capital Plan Allocation	Advance Amount
1	<i>P-04 Playfields - Grass play fields upgrades</i> Design consultancy for 2009 upgrade project, site to be determined from priority list after stakeholder consultation is completed.	\$1,750,000	\$50,000
2	<i>P-05 Sport Court/Active Use - Tennis court rebuilds and repairs</i> Design consultancy is required immediately to prepare for summer upgrading work.	\$725,000	\$50,000
3	<i>P-09 Park Infrastructure - Roads and parking lots:</i> Advance approval of the entire three-year allocation is requested at this time so that priority roadwork can be tendered and completed in advance of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Two sections of roads, in both Queen Elizabeth and Stanley Parks, will be repaved, with scheduled completion by late Spring. The Queen Elizabeth ring road project is particularly critical as it will be the main access route to the Bloedel Conservatory and Reservoir Plaza when Midlothian Avenue is closed for the Olympics. The repair work in Stanley Park will improve the road surface and facilitate traffic access into the park.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
4	<i>Pitch & Putt: Irrigation Upgrade:</i> Project is to convert existing manual irrigation system to an automated system, to save water and staff time. Immediate consultancy required to complete work before the summer season when course patronage increases.	\$200,000	\$30,000

#	Capital Plan Program and Project /Rationale	Capital Plan Allocation	Advance Amount
5	<i>R-03 Building Infrastructure - Roof replacements</i> Emergency repair to a 4500 sq ft section of roof at Dunbar Community Centre to prevent damage to underlying multipurpose room and seniors' program area.	\$1,000,000	\$300,000
6	<i>R-01 - Major Renewal / Replacement Nat Bailey Stadium: Lease Improvements:</i> Cost-sharing of capital upgrading work was outlined under the terms of a revised lease for the stadium by the Vancouver Canadians, approved by the Board on January 29, 2007. The intention is to complete improvements in parking, mechanical and electrical systems upgrades in advance of the 2009 playing season, and therefore release of the entire 2009-2011 allocation is requested now.	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
7	<i>Trout Lake Community Centre Renewal:</i> Advance approval of funding is requested to secure architectural and engineering services for the new community centre, with construction targeted to commence immediately after the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.	\$22,500,000	\$2,500,000
8	<i>Malkin Bowl Improvements:</i> Upgrading of performance venue functions to be completed before the 2009 season of Theatre Under the Stars.	\$200,000	\$200,000
TOTALS		\$29,375,000	\$6,130,000

Beyond the time sensitivities outlined above, advance approval of these projects will help to distribute project work more evenly over the coming three-year Capital Plan period. The \$6,130,000 requested amounts to approximately 20% of the relevant line item allocations and about 7% of the total 2009-2011 Park Board Capital Plan.

SUMMARY

This report outlines spending requirements of \$6,130,000 in capital projects for which staff propose to seek Park Board and Council approval for advance expenditure from the 2009-2011 Capital Plan, approved by the electorate in November 2008.

Prepared by:

Mark Vulliamy
 Planning and Operations
 Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
 Vancouver, BC