



Track and Field Strategy Update

Park Board Committee Meeting
December 17, 2018



To provide an update on the progress of the Track and Field Strategy development.

- Strategy Purpose and Overview
- Background Research
- Public Engagement
- Next Steps

The background of the slide is a photograph of a track and field event. In the foreground, there are several white hurdles on a red running track. In the background, several athletes are visible, some in red and white uniforms and others in yellow and blue uniforms, running on the track. The scene is outdoors on a grassy field.

Strategy Purpose and Overview

Strategy Purpose and Overview – Policy Connections



Vancouver Sport Strategy



Park Board Strategic Framework



Healthy City Strategy



VanPlay (draft)

- Policy direction
 - Encourages active lifestyles
 - Improves inclusivity and accessibility
 - Coordinated approach to sport development
 - Promotes physical literacy development for children
 - Provide quality facilities
 - Use resources efficiently
- Support from Vancouver Field Sport Federation & Vancouver Sport Network

Develop a long-range strategy for track & field sports & facilities in Vancouver, to support a bright future for participants & athletes.



VANCOUVER PARK BOARD

TRACK+FIELD₆₈
STRATEGY



Celebrate Vancouver's rich history in Track & Field.

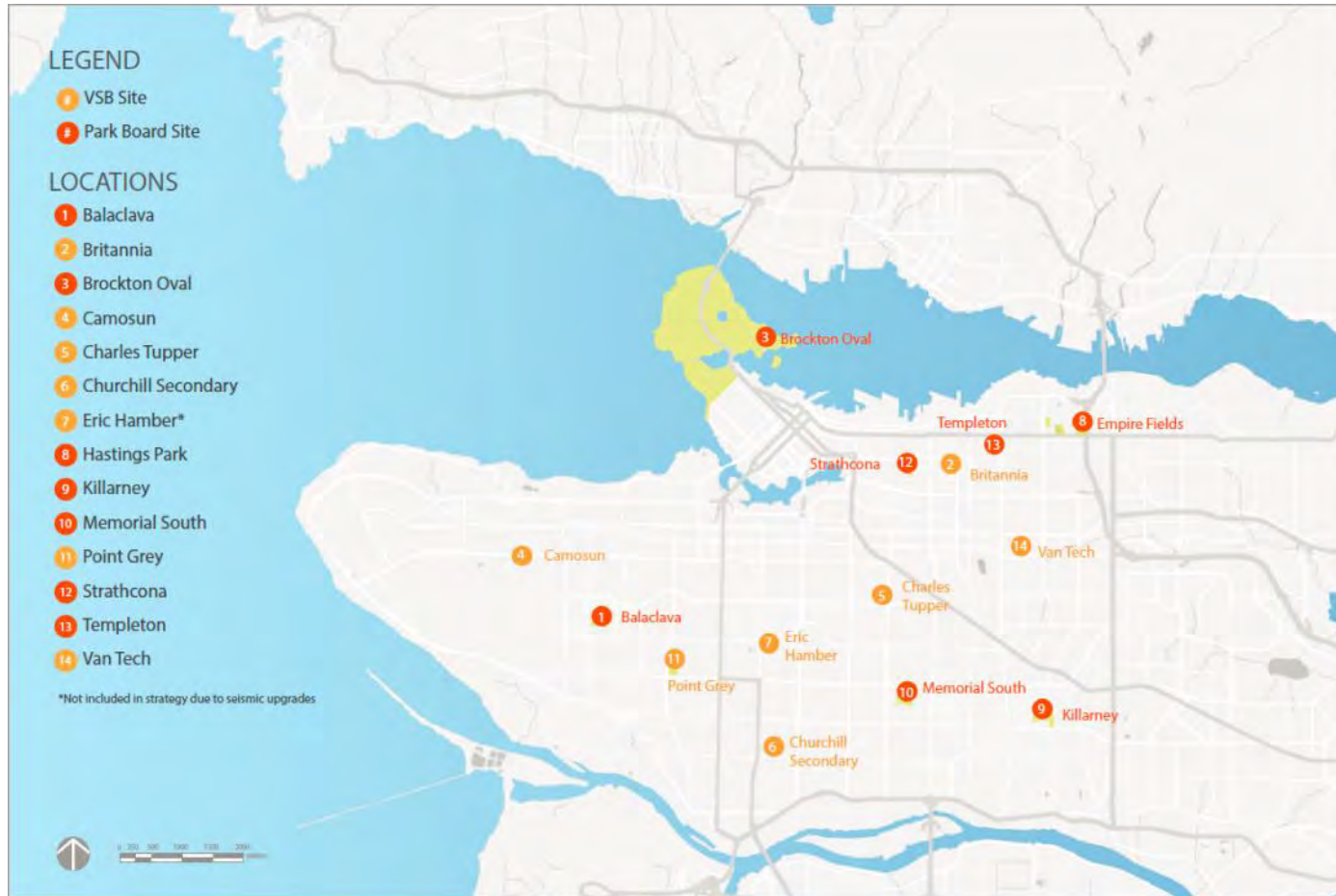
- Miracle Mile race featuring Roger Bannister and John Landy (1954)
- Barbara Howard, first black woman to represent Canada in international competition (1938)



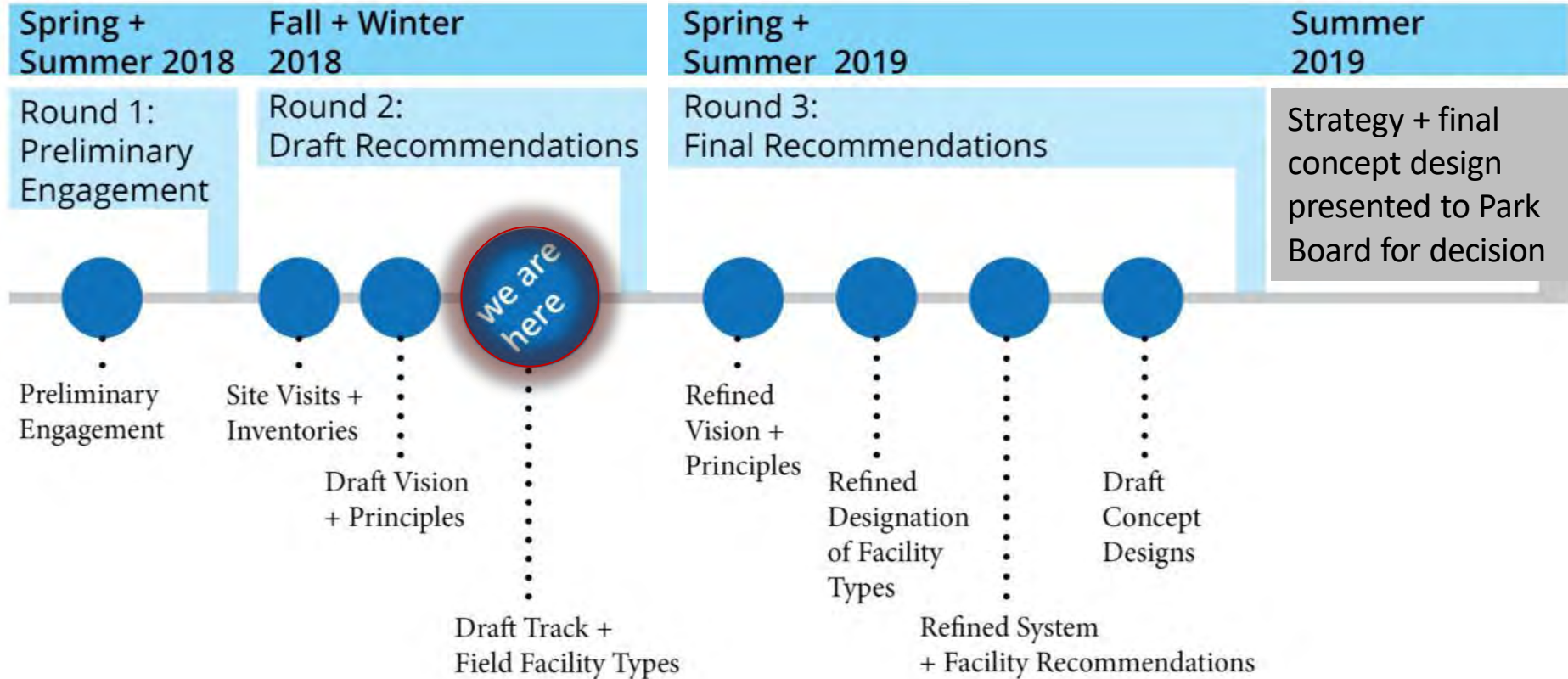
Scope:

- Assess current conditions.
- Develop a vision & ID current gaps.
- Understand participation by competitive athletes and a diverse range of users.
- Evaluate access to facilities across of Vancouver.
- Identify accessible, diverse and quality amenities and services.
- Identify future needs.
- Develop a 10-year implementation plan, including locating a competitive training facility.

Strategy Purpose and Overview – Existing Facilities



Strategy Purpose and Overview - Timeline



Background Research



- Numerous artificial turf projects (new and retrofits), some include tracks.
- New track and field projects in various phases of planning:
 - Maple Ridge - conceptual design phase
 - Delta - under construction
 - Abbotsford - 2024 to 2028
 - Chilliwack - allocation in capital budget over the next 7 years
 - Surrey - major enhancement projects identified and new park site development may include track and field
 - West Vancouver Secondary School - fundraising for major upgrade

- Run Jump Throw Wheel
 - Developed by Athletics Canada
 - Teaches fundamental movement skills and develops physical literacy
 - 187,000 children participated in 2016
- Special Olympics BC
 - 4,800 athletes in 55 communities; 3,900 volunteers
 - Athletics is 1 of 18 sports
 - 19 events within athletics



■ BC Wheelchair Sports

- Wheelchair racing and seated throws
- 100m, 200m, 400, 800m, 1500m
- Javelin, discus, shotput



■ Athletics Canada

- 14,425 athletes in 2016
- 13,600 athletes in 2013
- Most growth in the Masters (35+) category
- 90,000 BC students ran school track in 2016
- Run Jump Throw Wheel goal of 350,000 participants by 2020

Background Research – Trends & Leading Practices

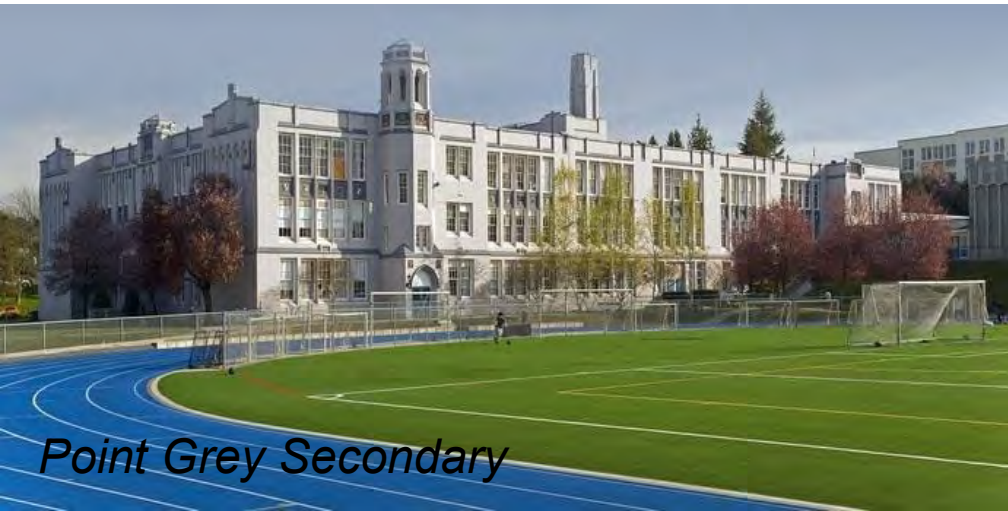


- More multi-use facilities
- More casual use tracks
- More focus on universal accessibility
- Events use both permanent + temporary facilities



Vancouver: 15.5

- 7 Parks Board
 - 7 School Board
 - 1.5* Private school
- Notes
 - 4.5 are rubberized
 - Most community/PE tracks
 - Point Grey and Van College best tracks, both 6 lanes
 - Empire field track is a good community amenity
 - *St George's has half a track



Burnaby: 9

- 3 City
- 4 Public school
- 1 Private school
- 1 University
- Notes
 - 5 rubberized, 3 have 8 lanes
 - Swangard is the premier track and field stadium in Metro Vancouver
 - Confederation Park is a community use rubberized track



Swangard Stadium

Surrey: 7

- 3 City
- 1 Public school
- 3 Private school
- Notes
 - 5 rubberized
 - All 3 City tracks are 8-lane rubberized



South Surrey Athletic Park Track

Seattle: 23

- 7 City
- 13 School
- 3 University
- Notes
 - 20 rubberized
 - 6 have 8 lanes
 - 2 City tracks are regulation 8-lane including one similar to Swangard

Husky Track



Public Engagement





- Online TalkVancouver Survey
- Kids Survey
- Pop-up Open Houses
- Total of 1,586 public and stakeholder interactions
 - 726 completed TalkVancouver survey
 - 165 completed Kids survey
 - ~695 people were engaged at Pop-Up Open Houses at track and field events

Most Popular Activities for Adults:

- Running Distance (67%)
- Running Sprints (61%)
- Jogging for Leisure (46%)
- Walking for Leisure (34%)

How Adults Participate:

- Solo (36%)
- Competitive Club/Team (27%)
- Informal Group (19%)
- Recreation program/club (19%)

Most Popular Activities for Kids: How Kids Participate:

- Running Sprints (76%)
- Long jump (59%)
- Jogging for leisure(59%)
- Shot put(49%)
- School teams (68%)
- Solo (19%)
- Competitive club (11%)
- Community Centre class (2%)

Most Valued Aspects of Track + Field

Adults:

- Health (31%)
- Recreation (27%)
- Competition (23%)
- Social Benefits & Community (19%)

Kids:

- Having a good coach or teacher (96% agree)
- Participating with friends (93% agree)
- Being part of a team (91% agree)
- Trying new sports (91% agree)

Most Cited Barriers to Participation

Adults:

- Running surface impacts on joints (58% agree)
- Availability of space on the track/field (53% agree)
- Lack of information about facilities (43% agree)

Kids:

- Facilities are too far from home & school (24% agree)
- Facilities are in poor shape (18% agree)



Priorities for Programs + Activities

- Host local competitive Track + Field events (44%)*
- Partnerships w/Vancouver School Board (41%)
- Improve communications for classes, clubs, teams (41%)

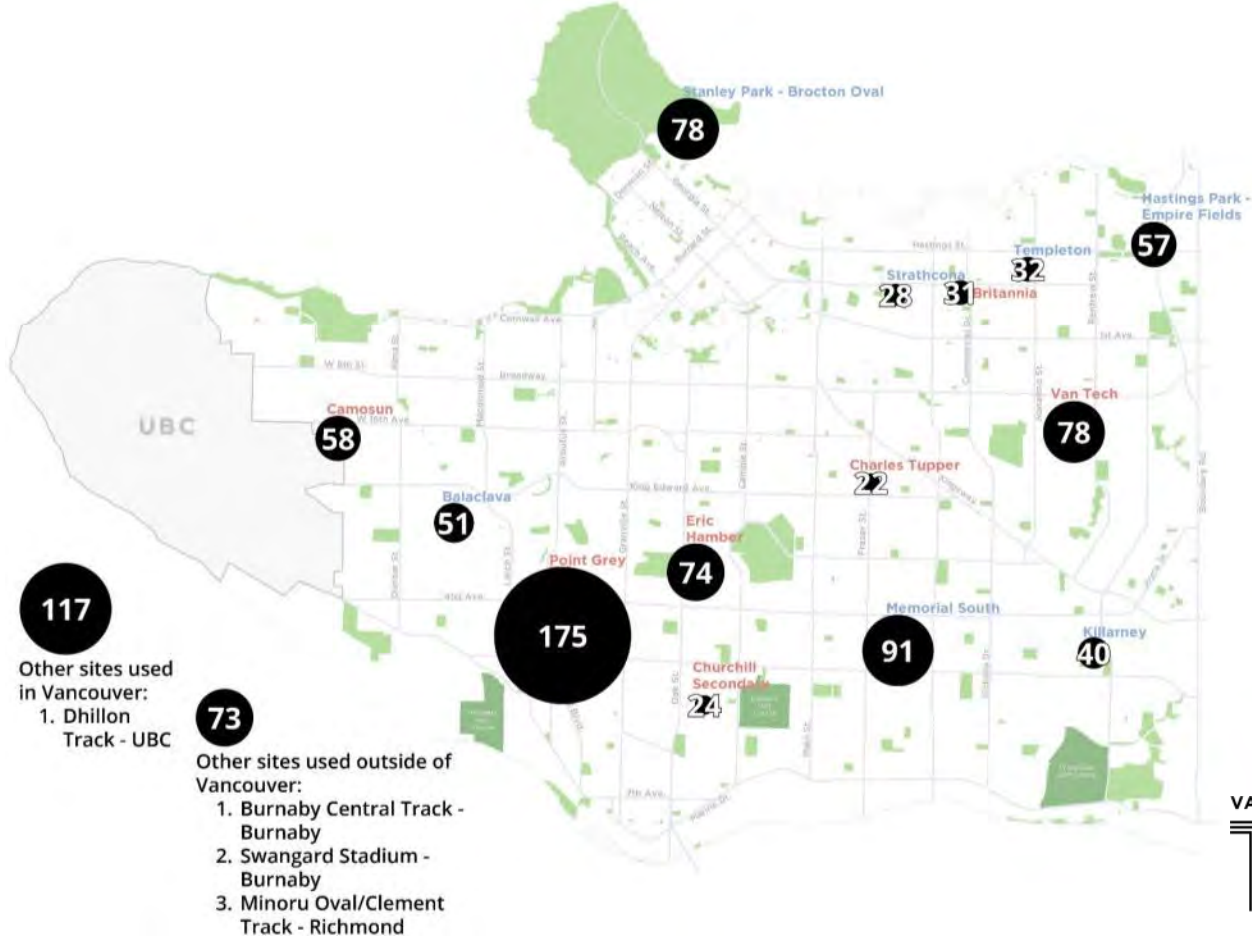


Most Cited Priorities for Improvements

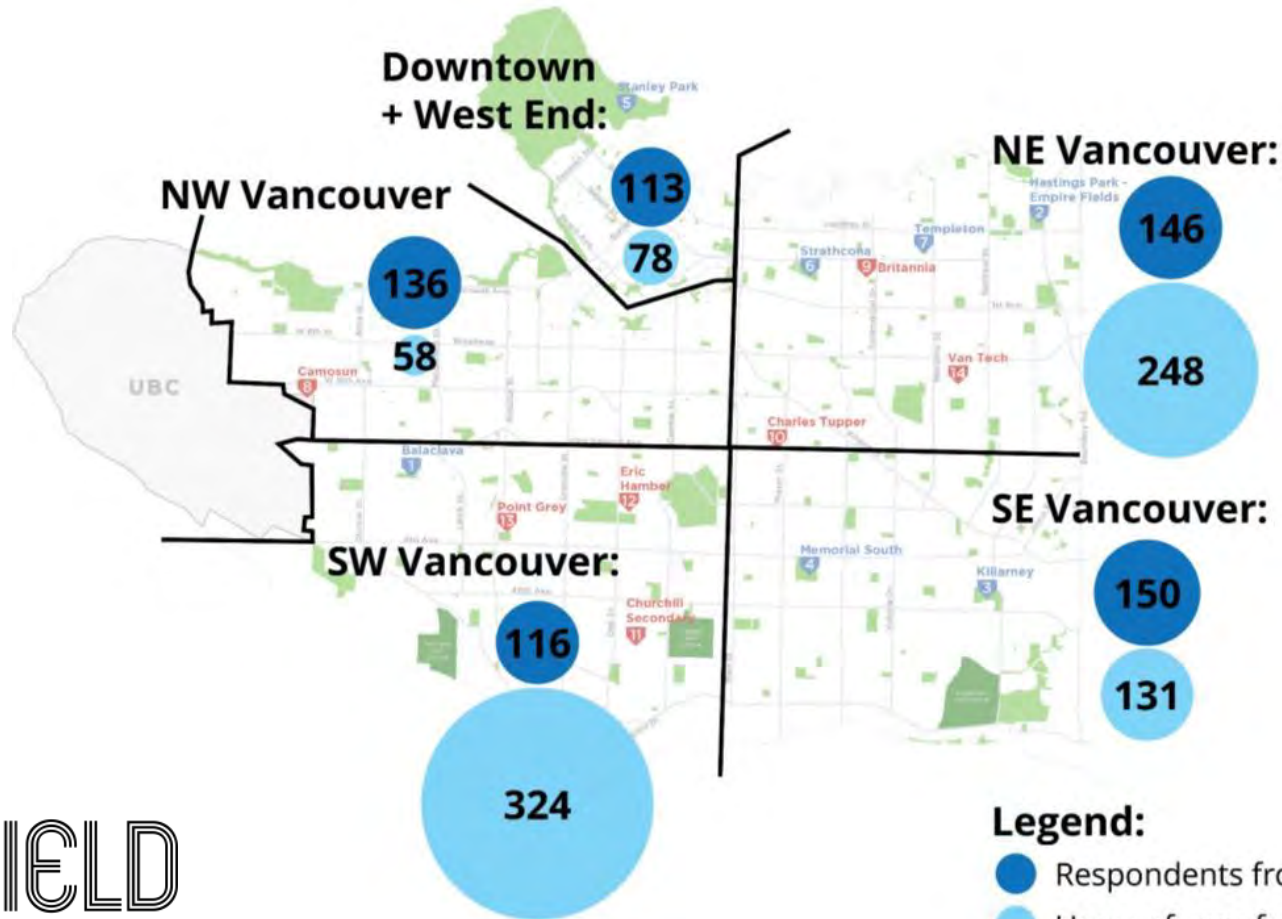
- Improve existing facilities + amenities (37%)
 - Improved running surfaces
 - Better maintenance
- Ensure facilities are welcoming, inclusive, accessible (36%)
- Provide more track+field facilities + amenities (33%)
 - More 8 lane running tracks
 - More lit track+field facilities



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF PARKS
AND RECREATION



Public Engagement – Facilities Use & Where People Live



Draft Vision

Vancouver's exceptional track and field facilities and activities attract, retain and elevate all levels of track and field users, helping Vancouver athletes grow to their fullest potential.

Draft Principles

- Inspire all athletes
- Celebrate the past & foster the future
- Support the growth of track & field in Vancouver
- Provide equitable access
- Complement citywide initiatives and recreation strategies
- Strengthen partnerships

Public Engagement – Facility Types

- Fitness + Recreation
- Training + Local Competition
- High Level Training + Competition



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Public Engagement – Facility Types

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Workshop Quotes:

“Competition drives inspiration”

“Track is awesome”

“It’s so important to see big picture, to see the strategy as a whole”

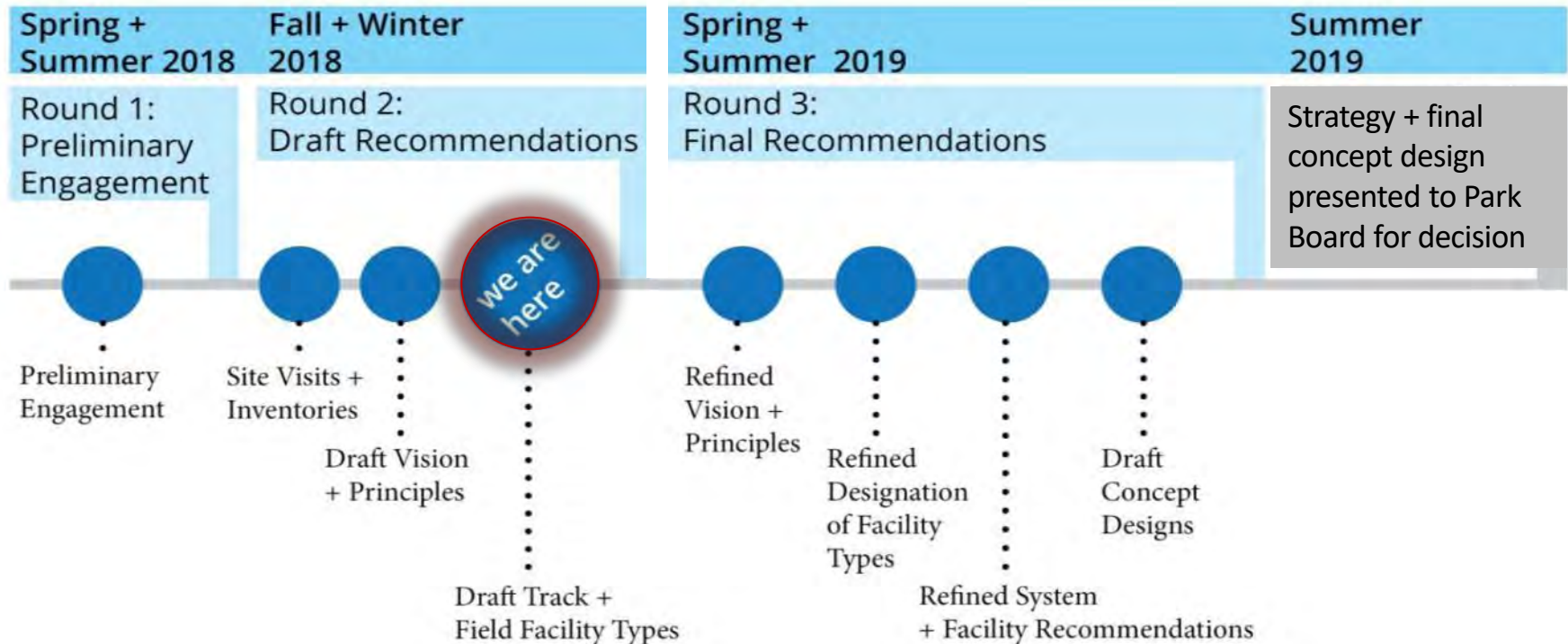
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Next Steps

Next Steps – Project Timeline



Round 2 Public Survey: open until Dec. 19

Next Steps



- Refine facility types & Propose locations (Winter 2019)
- Refine Vision and Principles (Winter 2019)
- Draft Recommendations & Concepts (Winter 2019)
- Round 3 Engagement (Spring 2019)
- Final refinements (Summer 2019)
- To Board for Decision (Late Summer 2019)

