



PLAYING FIELD UPGRADES

Synthetic Turf & Lighting

Park Board Committee Meeting
April 15, 2019



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Purpose
2. Previous Board Decisions
3. Background
4. Public Engagement
5. Proposed Upgrades
6. Next Steps
7. Recommendation



- Provide public engagement results
- Outline staff recommendations:
 - Site a new synthetic turf playing field at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary
 - Install lights at the existing synthetic turf playing fields at Kitsilano Secondary and Hillcrest Park in Vancouver

- On October 2, 2017, Park Board approved *Synthetic Turf Playing Field – New Site Options* report recommendations to “endorse Beaconsfield Park, Clinton Park, and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary school for consideration as the potential site for a new synthetic turf playing field to be funded by Citywide Development Cost Levy (DCL) Funds, subject to further technical review and a public process”.



Background

VanPlay, (Parks and Recreation Services Master Plan)

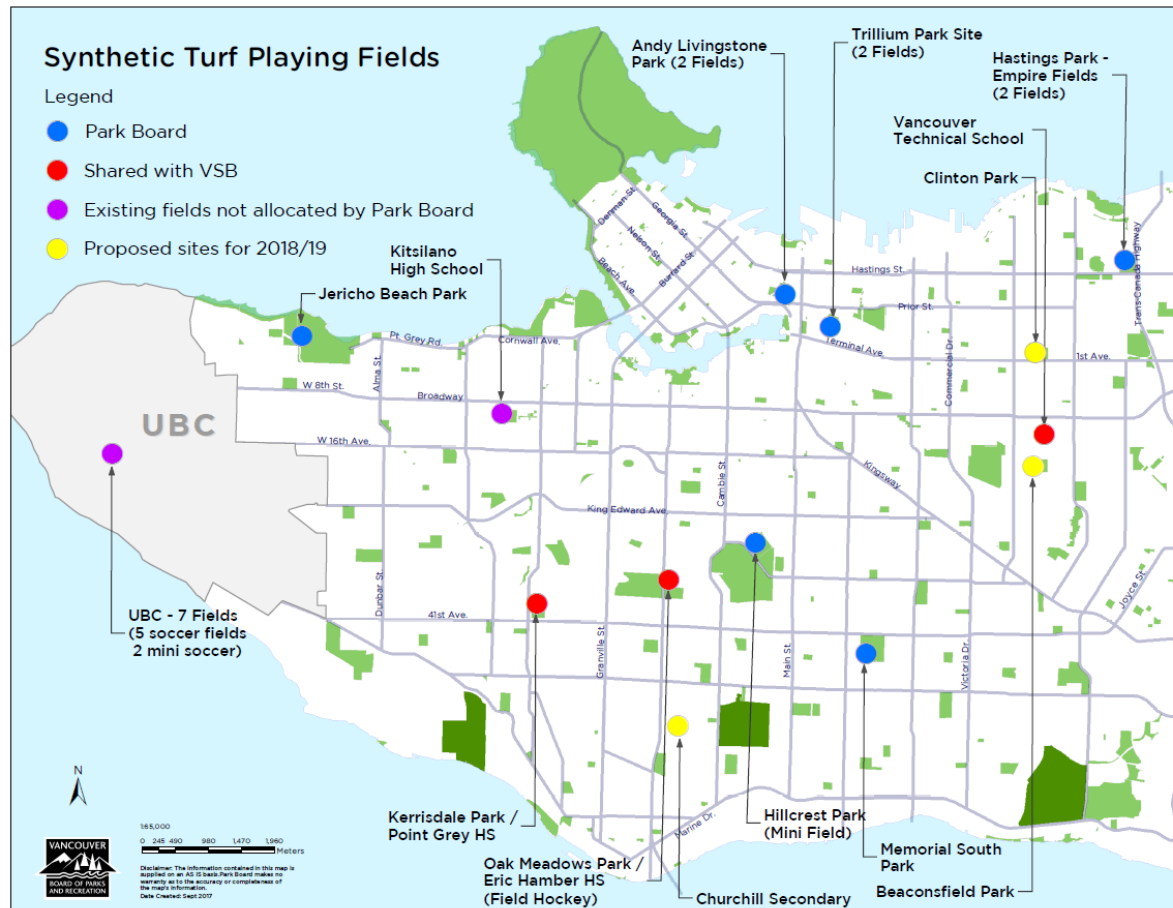
- Big moves for equitable provision of parks and recreation amenities city-wide
- Goals and targets to:
 - Grow and renew assets to meet need and demand
 - Enhance access, welcome and inclusion
 - Adapt to a changing climate

Vancouver Sport for Life Strategy

- Quality facilities for participation and performance



BACKGROUND – Synthetic Turf Inventory





- Support health and well-being, social networks, and sense of social connectedness.
- Support lifelong engagement with sport (2008 Sport Strategy, True Sport Principles, and Canadian Sport for Life's Long Term Athlete Development Framework)
- Increase year-round access to synthetic turf fields for Vancouver's growing and active population

Vancouver has lowest synthetic turf playing field provision of large Metro Vancouver municipalities

Municipality	2016 Population	# of Synthetic Turf Fields	# of Synthetic Turf Fields per 100,000 residents
Vancouver	631,486	12	1.9
Surrey	517,887	15*	2.9
Burnaby	232,755	8	3.4
Coquitlam	139,284	5	3.6
Richmond	198,309	8	4.0
Langley(City + Township)	143,173	7*	4.8
Delta	102,238	5*	4.9
North Vancouver (District + City)	138,833	7*	5.0

**not including future synthetic turf projects approved or currently under construction*

Field capacity and utilization

- Vancouver has limited availability of large flat sites
- Synthetic turf fields provide efficient land use and reliability, without seasonal closures for rest and repair, or closures due to weather
- Current utilization rates range from 91% to 100% during peak times



Playing field use

Comparing usability of fields
for lit synthetic turf and
grass

Accommodating playing
field users



Based on full field soccer over the course of a week, synthetic turf can accommodate roughly 2310 youth and adults, whereas grass can accommodate 308 people

Grass

12 to 14 hours a week, as well as seasonal closures for field recovery and closures due to saturation and damage



Lit Synthetic Turf

105 hours a week, including roughly 48 prime time hours on evenings and weekends

Growing Needs

- Synthetic turf field users: soccer, field hockey, ultimate, football, rugby, lacrosse, and cricket
- Needs and expectations growing due to:
 - Expanding sports groups and clubs
 - New emerging sport demands
 - Sport seasons extending causing overlap
 - Schools requesting more use of fields
 - Uneven distribution of quality fields
 - Reduced acceptance for using gravel fields
 - Changing climate impacting grass fields
 - Accommodating population growth on limited land base



Park Board / Vancouver School Board Partnership

- Existing shared use fields at:
 - Vancouver Technical Secondary, Eric Hamber Secondary, and Point Grey Secondary/Kerrisdale Park
- **VSB:** provides land and uses fields morning-5pm on school days
- **Park Board:** builds / maintains fields and programs for residents outside of school hours
- Detailed shared use agreements outline: schedules, obligations, administration, and allowable uses

Vancouver Field Sports Federation (VFSF)

- City-wide community organization created to work with the Park Board to develop, maintain, and schedule sport fields
 - **40,000+** adults and youth users, including baseball, football, cricket, field hockey, lacrosse, rugby, soccer, softball, track and field, ultimate and volleyball
 - Contributes ~**\$1.5M** annually through user fees
 - Provides **recommendations** on facility needs, types, and locations
 - Collaboration provides dialogue with **unified group** on planning, use, and maintenance



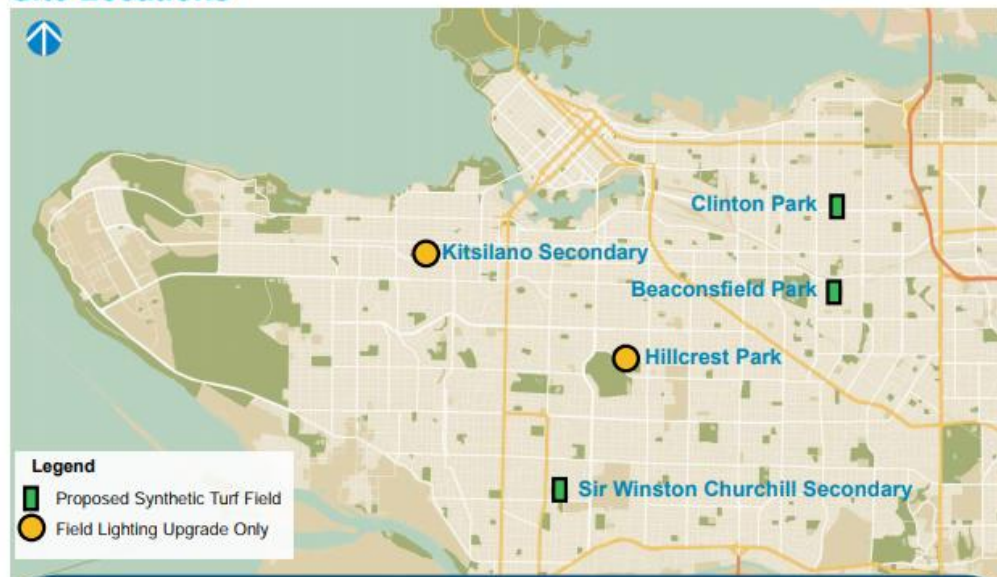
Public Engagement



Feedback was requested for:

- Potential new synthetic turf playing fields at Beaconsfield Park, Clinton Park, and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
- Potential permanent lighting installations at the Kitsilano Secondary Hillcrest mini synthetic turf fields.

Site Locations



We Need Your Feedback

Through a series of open houses and an online survey, the Vancouver Park Board is asking the public to provide feedback on proposed locations in order to understand the level of support for synthetic turf fields at each location. Park Board staff will develop recommendations based on public input, technical and financial information. It is possible that none or all sites receive support for upgrades.

Please share your input on these synthetic turf field upgrades.



Open Houses

- November 8, Kitsilano Community Centre
- November 19, Hillcrest Community Centre
- November 20, Trout Lake Community Centre
- November 25, Italian Cultural Centre
- November 29, Churchill Secondary Sch.

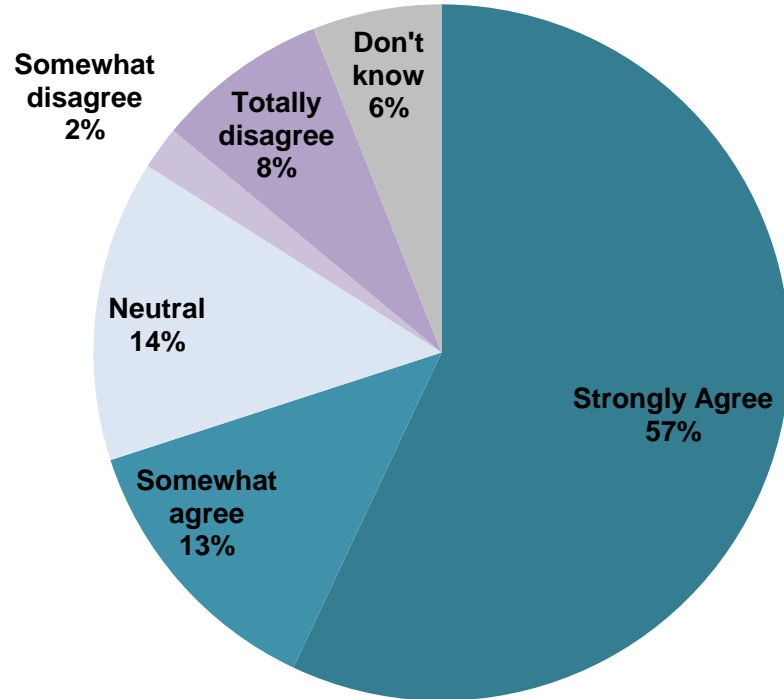
Parent Advisory Committee Meetings

- November 27, Kitsilano Secondary Sch.
- November 27, Churchill Secondary Sch.

Hillcrest Park

Permanent Lighting

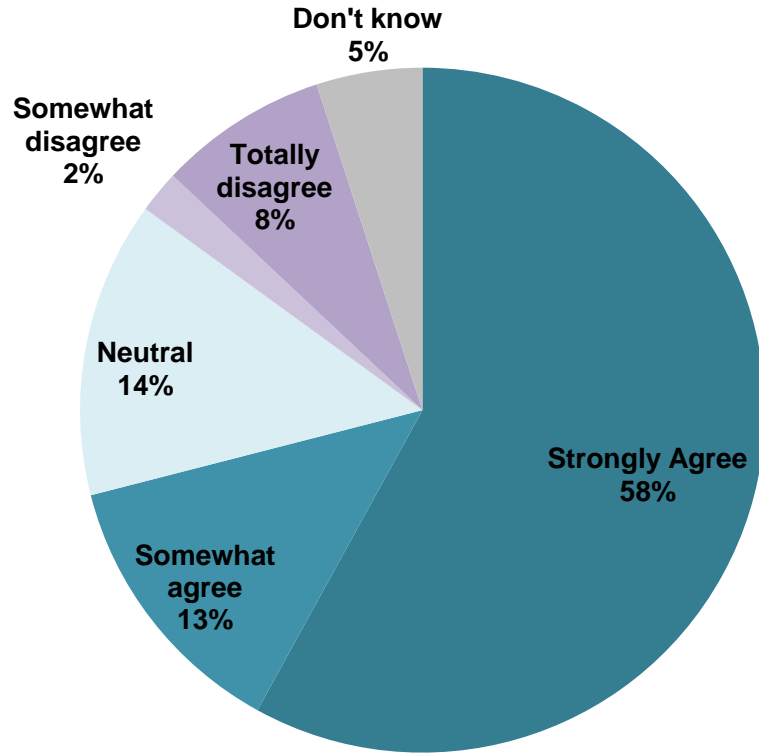
- 70% Strongly or Somewhat agree
- 10.3% Totally or Somewhat disagree



Kitsilano Secondary

Permanent Lighting

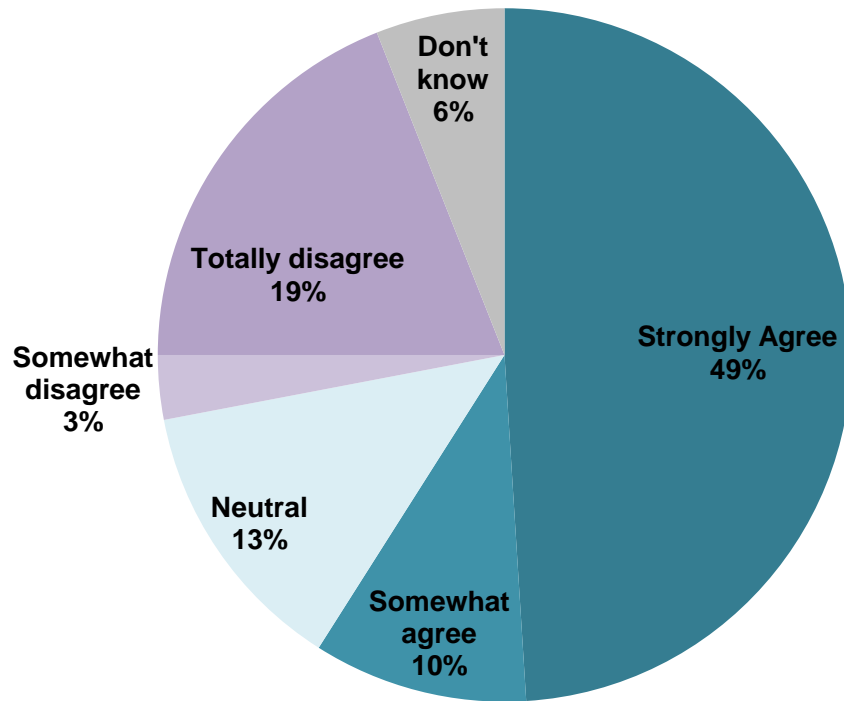
- 71% Strongly or Somewhat agree
- 10% Totally or Somewhat disagree



Beaconsfield Park

New Synthetic Turf Field

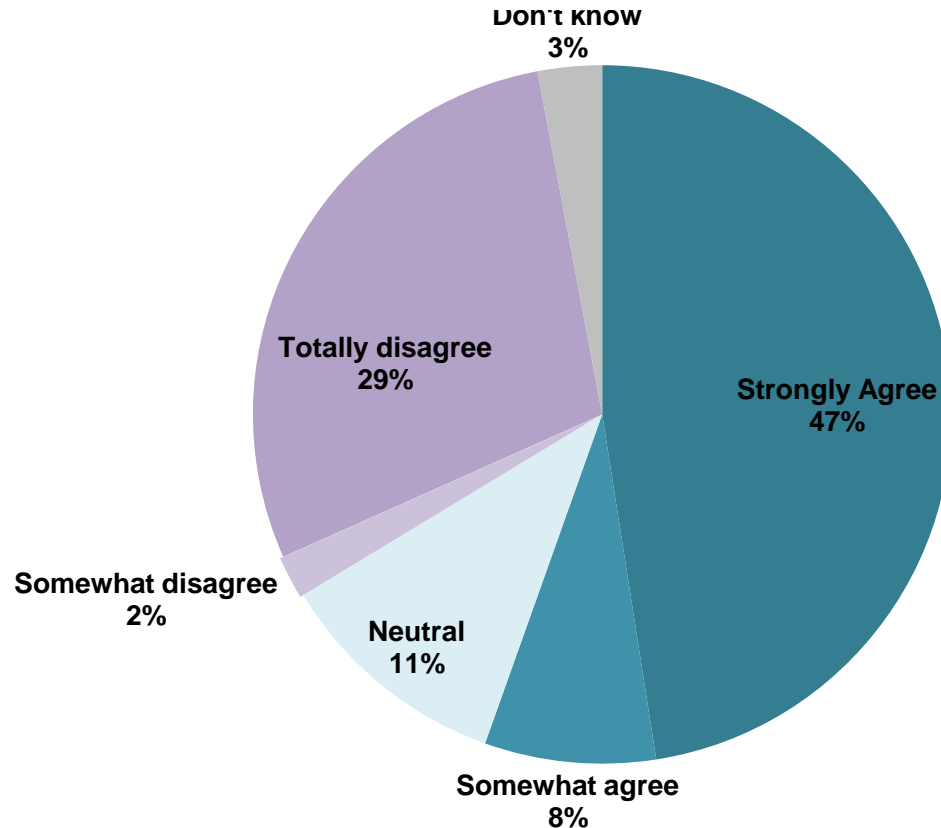
- 59% Strongly or Somewhat agree
- 22% Totally or Somewhat disagree



Clinton Park

New Synthetic Turf Field

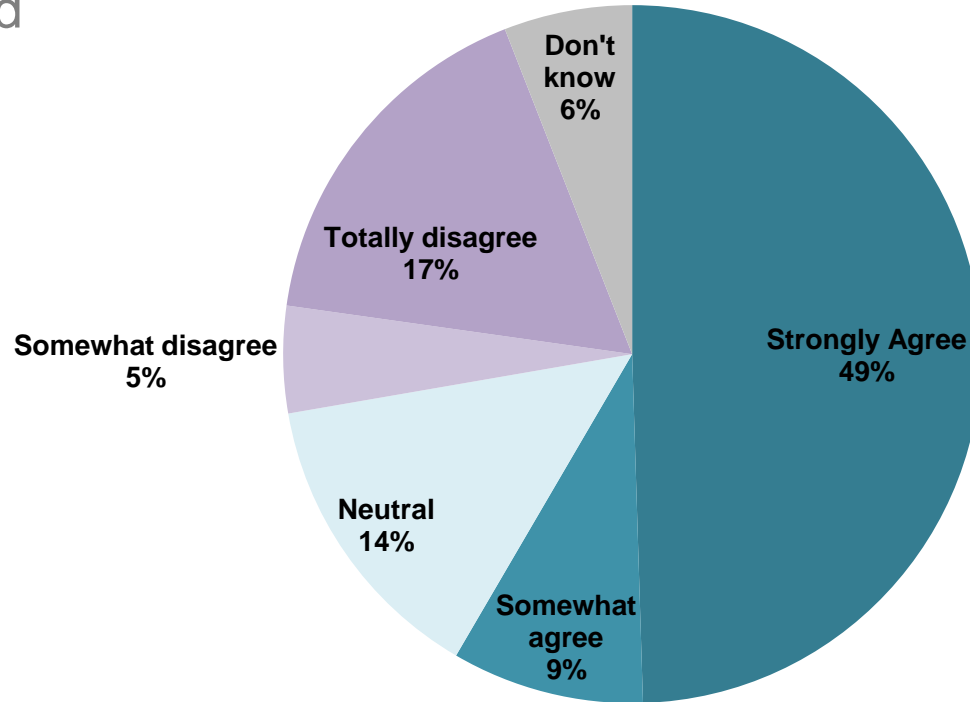
- 56% Strongly or Somewhat agree
- 31% Totally or Somewhat disagree



Sir Winston Churchill Secondary

New Synthetic Turf Field

- 59% Strongly or Somewhat agree
- 22% Totally or Somewhat disagree





Proposed Upgrades

New Lighting – Hillcrest Park (mini field)

Selection Considerations

- Field completed in 2016
- Use limited to daylight hours
- Permanent lighting will increase playable and bookable hours

Existing Site Condition



Existing Synthetic Turf Field



Site Photos



New Lighting – Kitsilano Secondary

Selection Considerations

- Field completed in 2018
- Lights would allow evening use and Park Board bookings



Existing Site Condition



Existing Synthetic Turf Field



Site Photos



New Field Location – Sir Winston Churchill Secondary

Selection Considerations

- VSB & community support
- Under-served, growing neighbourhood
- Access by transit
- Limited impact to trees
- No need for retaining walls

Existing Site Condition



Proposed Synthetic Turf Field Concept



Site Photos





Next Steps



An **expanded engagement process** for new synthetic turf facilities in Vancouver Parks is being developed, to respond to recent public input

- Holistic park review process to consider other park features and needs (e.g. playgrounds, adjacent grass fields)
- A new **playing field advisory group** to:
 - Consider city-wide synthetic turf needs including Beaconsfield and Clinton Parks as well as other locations
 - Provide feedback on potential locations, impacts and mitigation options for amenities, infrastructure, environmental aspects, technical considerations, and parking
 - Review benefits, drawbacks and options for surface materials

NEXT STEPS - SCHEDULE



Develop designs and solicit contractor bids to install lights at Kitsilano Secondary and Hillcrest Park, and new synthetic turf field at Churchill Secondary, in collaboration with VSB.

Develop a shared-use agreement outlining how the Park Board and VSB will work together to build, maintain, and program the facilities.

Strike and work with the playing field advisory group to consider all proposed sites put forward by the VFSF and reconsider potential Beaconsfield Park and Clinton Park locations

Bring forward recommendations for new synthetic turf fields aligned with the 2019-2022 Capital Plan

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve in principle the installation of a synthetic turf playing field and lighting at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, on the existing grass playfield/diamond adjacent to West 57th Avenue, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board;
- B. THAT Park Board staff explore more organic sustainable substrate options and storm water filtration and report back to the Board;
- C. THAT the Park Board approve the installation of outdoor lighting at the following two locations:
 - i. Hillcrest Park on the existing mini synthetic turf playing field.
 - ii. Kitsilano Secondary on the existing synthetic turf field, pending approval of a shared-use agreement with the Vancouver School Board

