



Mural and Sports Court Activation at Sunset Beach Park

Excerpted from Minutes October 16, 2023

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MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Haer

Amendment (adding B) MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

Final motion as amended:

WHEREAS:

1. In accordance with the Vancouver Charter, the Park Board has exclusive jurisdiction and control over park land use in the City of Vancouver, including any events, activities, programs, fees, structures, and improvements that occur within designated parks;
2. Sports transcends cultural and socioeconomic barriers. It brings people together and fosters a sense of community; By providing and enhancing spaces for the community to play and connect in our city, we are helping to promote social cohesion and enhance well-being;
3. Sunset Beach is a popular Vancouver gathering spot for locals and tourists alike, including the Sunset Beach sports pad which offers multiple opportunities for community sports activities;
4. There is currently limited outdoor sporting infrastructure in the area, making the Sunset Beach sports pad a valuable asset for promoting active living;
5. The community engagement for the 30 year plan for the West End Waterfront completed its most recent round in the Fall of 2023, early feedback showed support for more sports court activations in the West End, such as soccer, basketball, and roller sports;
6. The Park Board received an offer of a donation from 'Art X Sport' to update the mural in Sunset Beach Parking lot and to renew and expand the sports courts;
7. By activating the Sunset Beach sports pad, we can provide more opportunities for residents to engage in physical activity, particularly in sports like basketball, soccer, and roller hockey. These sports are popular and accessible to people of all ages and income levels. Such inclusivity aligns with the City of Vancouver's healthy community strategy and its commitment to promoting active living among its residents, and is inline with Sunset Beach as a designated quiet beach;
8. In addition to sports activities, the Sunset Beach sports pad offers an opportunity to combine sport activations with other activation projects such as a mural project and other arts and community activations;
9. The Sunset Beach sports pad is an ideal location for an Art X Sport activation project. The central location and proximity to public transportation make it easily accessible to residents from various parts of the city. The proximity to the beach, seawall, and



water also would add to the overall appeal of a multi-pronged activation. It would provide a unique and enjoyable experience for both players and spectators, attracting visitors from near and far;

10. Local artist, Carling Jackson of Art X Sports, is a professional, award-winning athlete portrait artist who primarily focuses on using contemporary art to effect change and make the world a better place. She was the first sports artist in FIFA history to paint at a World Cup and is the most commissioned artist by athletes in the world. She has been commissioned to paint over 170 paintings for athletes across 17 leagues and 22 countries.
11. Given the various community needs for sporting facilities and arts related activations, the potential benefits of activating the Sunset Beach sports pad should be seen as a priority opportunity to accomplish these community objectives in a timely, relatively low cost manner. It is therefore crucial for the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation to prioritize this project.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Board directs staff to explore the potential donation of an art mural and work with the 'Art X Sport' group to activate and renew the existing sports court space at Sunset Beach parking lot with a sport-themed mural, ideally in time for Summer 2024;
- B. THAT the Board directs staff to work with user groups and identify stakeholders of the Sunset Beach sports court activation area;
- C. FURTHER THAT staff be directed to explore and facilitate potential funding sources, including from private contributions, sponsorships and the city, to advance a temporary 'pop up sports activation' space at Sunset Beach parking lot, adjacent to the existing sports court, and to report back on possible scope, costs, timelines, and program ideas with results reported back to the Board in Q12024 for decision; and
- D. THAT for staff to work with city staff on the potential of a change of use to allow food and beverage at Sunset Beach parking lot, with accessible, affordable options, following the precedent at Plaza of Nations

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY