



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 25, 2024

A Special meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation was held on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 6:42 pm, in the Boardroom at the Park Board Office, and via videoconference, for the purpose of hearing from speakers to the 2025 Fees and Charges, and the 2025 Capital and Operating Budget.

PRESENT: Commissioner Brennan Bastovanszky, Chair
Commissioner Laura Christensen
Commissioner Tom Digby
Commissioner Marie-Claire Howard*
Commissioner Scott Jensen, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Jas Viridi

ABSENT: Commissioner Angela Haer (Leave of Absence)

GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE: Steve Jackson, General Manager
Denise Swanston, Manager, Board Relations & Meeting Clerk
Jessica Kulchyski, Board Support and Meeting Assistant
Victoria Tyers, Board Support and Meeting Assistant & Meeting Clerk

* *Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. The meeting is being held on the land respectfully and with the knowledge that there must be continued acknowledgement of the history of injustice toward Indigenous peoples. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is committed to supporting truth and reconciliation, and to use this opportunity to amplify local First Nations voices and culture through our work in community.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications related to the Board meeting agenda were received via email or the Contact Park Board Commissioners web form:

- Four pieces of correspondence in opposition and one piece of correspondence addressing other aspects related to Item 1
- One piece of correspondence addressing other aspects related to Item 2

STAFF REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

1. 2025 Fees & Charges – Parks & Recreation

The General Manager introduced the item and the Director of Financial Planning and Analysis, presented an overview of the [2025 Fees and Charges](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Leisure Access Program
- Parking Strategy
- Revenue projections
- Amenity Improvement Fee
- Burrard Civic Marina
- Stanley Park Train fee restructuring

The Board heard from six speakers opposed to the recommendations and two who spoke to other aspects of the recommendations.

Subsequently, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Fees and Charges, as summarized in the body of this report and detailed in Appendix A

Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen
SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

THAT the following be added to the Main Motion:

THAT staff be directed to ensure the Parking Strategy include an analysis and recommendation related to paid parking solutions for non-profit partners operating within Park Board jurisdiction so as not to hinder these NPOs ability to retain and grow memberships due to financial pressures caused by pay parking.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Abstained: Commissioner Howard

Main Motion as Amended

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Fees and Charges, as summarized in the body of this report and detailed in Appendix A.
- B. THAT staff be directed to ensure the Parking Strategy include an analysis and recommendation related to paid parking solutions for non-profit partners operating within Park Board jurisdiction so as not to hinder these NPOs ability to retain and grow memberships due to financial pressures caused by pay parking.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recess

The meeting recessed at 8:15pm and reconvened at 8:24pm.

2. 2025 Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets – Parks & Recreation

The Director of Strategic Operations and Board Relations introduced the item, and the Director of Financial Planning and Analysis and Acting Manager of Strategic Initiatives presented an overview on the [2025 Service Plan, Operating and Capital Budgets](#).

Following the presentation, staff responded to questions related to:

- Washroom cleanliness certifications
- Staffing
- Underfunded initiatives
- Safe sport programs
- Storymap website launch and communications plan.

The Board heard from two speakers opposed to the recommendations and two who spoke to other aspects of the recommendations.

Subsequently, it was,

MOVED by Commissioner Jensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Christensen

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed 2025 Service Plan as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled “2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets”.
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed 2025 Parks & Recreation Operating Budget of \$183,894,418 in expenditures and transfers, funded by \$85,173,300 in revenues and \$98,721,118 of tax-based operating funds, as outlined in the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled “2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets” and in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A).

- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Parks & Recreation Multi-Year Capital Project Budget in the amount of \$52,341,600 which consists of \$35,913,000 in the Parks and Open Spaces service category, and \$16,428,600 in the Recreation Facilities and Service Yards service categories as outlined in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets").
- D. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Parks & Recreation Annual Capital Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$105,394,400, which consists of \$52,681,700 in the Parks and Open Spaces service category, and \$52,712,700 in the Recreation Facilities and Service Yards service categories as outlined in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets").
- E. THAT, subject to approval of recommendations A, B, C and D above, the Parks & Recreation 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets be submitted to Vancouver City Council for consideration in the approval of the City of Vancouver's 2025 Operating and 2025 Capital Budget.

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At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Bastyovanszky relinquished the role of Chair to Commissioner Jensen, in order to move an amendment.

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Amendment to the Main Motion

MOVED by Commissioner Bastyovanszky
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the following clause be added and the final clause be amended to account for this addition:

THAT the Board direct staff to implement a pilot to launch Safe Sport and Field Permitting and that the Board authorize staff to use up to \$200k from the Corporate Sponsorship fund for phase 1 of this initiative in order to enhance service levels;

FURTHER THAT staff report back on the results of Phase 1 as part of the 2026 operating budget cycle.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby and Jensen

Opposed: Commissioners Howard and Virdi

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At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Bastyovanszky resumed the role of Chair.

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Motion to Extend

*MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen*

THAT the meeting extend in order to deal with the remaining business on the agenda.

*CARRIED AND BY
THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
Abstained: Commissioner Virdi
Absent: Commissioner Howard*

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Amendment to the Motion as Amended

*MOVED by Commissioner Virdi
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen*

THAT the following clause be added, and the final clause of the original motion be amended to account for this addition:

THAT the Board direct staff to allocate \$300k from the Corporate Sponsorship Fund to provide one-time funding to support the unfunded Think Big initiatives as detailed in the Report.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
In favour: Commissioners Christensen, Digby, Howard, and Virdi
Abstained: Commissioners Bastyovanszky and Digby*

At this point in the proceedings, Commissioner Jensen raised a Point of Order, requesting that Commissioners not use the term “weaponize” in relation to items brought forward by staff. The Chair responded and confirmed that Commissioners should not use the term “weaponizing” when referring to staff reports and to remain respectful of staff.

Amendment to the Motion as Amended

MOVED by Commissioner Christensen

SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the following clause be added, and the final clause be amended to account for this addition:

THAT the Vancouver Park Board request from Council an additional \$900,000 for the 2025 Operating Budget to improve recreational facilities janitorial services to an APPA Level 4 cleanliness standard (moderate dinginess) to Level 3 (casual inattention), with further consideration for additional funding to bring janitorial standards to the VanPlay target of an APPA Level 2 cleanliness standard (ordinary tidiness).

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastiovanszky, Christensen, Digby, and Jensen

Opposed: Commissioner Howard and Viridi

Main Motion as Amended

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed 2025 Service Plan as outlined in this report and attached as Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets".
- B. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the proposed 2025 Parks & Recreation Operating Budget of \$183,894,418 in expenditures and transfers, funded by \$85,173,300 in revenues and \$98,721,118 of tax-based operating funds, as outlined in the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets" and in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A).
- C. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Parks & Recreation Multi-Year Capital Project Budget in the amount of \$52,341,600 which consists of \$35,913,000 in the Parks and Open Spaces service category, and \$16,428,600 in the Recreation Facilities and Service Yards service categories as outlined in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets").
- D. THAT the Vancouver Park Board approve the 2025 Parks & Recreation Annual Capital Expenditure Budget in the amount of \$105,394,400, which consists of \$52,681,700 in the Parks and Open Spaces service category, and \$52,712,700 in the Recreation Facilities and Service Yards service categories as outlined in Section 3 of the proposed Service Plan (Appendix A of the Report dated November 15, 2024, titled "2025 Parks & Recreation Service Plan, Operating & Capital Budgets").

- E. THAT the Board direct staff to implement a pilot to launch Safe Sport and Field Permitting and that the Board authorize staff to use up to \$200k from the Corporate Sponsorship fund for phase 1 of this initiative in order to enhance service levels;
- FURTHER THAT staff report back on the results of Phase 1 as part of the 2026 operating budget cycle.
- F. THAT the Board direct staff to allocate \$300k from the Corporate Sponsorship Fund to provide one-time funding to support the unfunded Think Big initiatives as detailed in the Report.
- G. THAT the Vancouver Park Board request from Council an additional \$900,000 for the 2025 Operating Budget to improve recreational facilities janitorial services from an APPA Level 4 cleanliness standard (moderate dinginess) to Level 3 (casual inattention), with further consideration for additional funding to bring janitorial standards to the VanPlay target of an APPA Level 2 cleanliness standard (ordinary tidiness).
- H. THAT, subject to approval of recommendations A, B, C, D, E, F and G above, the Parks & Recreation 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets be submitted to Vancouver City Council for consideration in the approval of the City of Vancouver's 2025 Operating and 2025 Capital Budget.

CARRIED

In favour: Commissioners Bastyovanszky, Christensen, Digby, Jensen, and Viridi
Abstained: Commissioner Howard

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Motion to Add Agenda Item

MOVED by Commissioner Digby
SECONDED by Commissioner Jensen

THAT the Special Meeting agenda be revised to include "Notice of Member's Motions".

LOST NOT HAVING THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
Opposed: Commissioners Howard and Viridi

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The Special Board meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm.

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Steve Jackson
General Manager

Brennan Bastovanszky
Chair