

NOTICE of MOTION

Submitted at the Regular Board meeting held on June 16, 2025

Accelerating the Turf Field Upgrade at Beaconsfield Park for Inclusion in the 2027–2030 Capital Plan

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Haer

WHEREAS:

- 1. Beaconsfield Park, located at 3215 Slocan Street in the Renfrew-Collingwood neighbourhood, is a 4.43-hectare green space that includes a gravel soccer field situated behind the Italian Cultural Centre and adjacent to Vancouver Technical Secondary School;
- 2. The gravel field at Beaconsfield Park is currently programmed for high use by community sports organizations, and the site is already equipped with field lighting, making it suitable for extended hours of play, including evenings;
- 3. The Italian Canadian sports Federation Columbus FC that primarily uses Beaconsfield Park has experienced substantial growth in recent years in line with citywide trends. Club registration has increased significantly, reflecting Vancouver's growing, diverse population and heightened interest in accessible and inclusive team sports;
- 4. Vancouver is a host city for FIFA World Cup 2026, with global attention and community engagement in the sport expected to surge further in the years immediately preceding and following the tournament;
- 5. Soccer in Vancouver has one of the longest playing seasons of any sport, as noted in the City's own programming materials, yet the supply of high-quality, all-season fields has not kept pace with demand;
- 6. The gravel field at Beaconsfield is currently scheduled for conversion to a turf field in the City's 2030–2034 Capital Plan, despite clear evidence of unmet demand and strong community interest in accelerating that timeline;
- 7. Synthetic turf fields can accommodate <u>approximately 3.5 times more usage annually</u> than natural grass fields, making them a more efficient investment for high-demand sports like soccer;
- 8. Beaconsfield Park's central location, multi-field layout, and existing lighting infrastructure make it a highly cost-effective and strategic site for an accelerated turf conversion;
- 9. An accelerated synthetic turf field at Beaconsfield Park would exist in close proximity to the turf field at Vancouver Technical Secondary School, creating opportunities for new synergies and the hosting of tournaments and competitions; ⁱ
- 10. The City of Vancouver is currently entering the planning phase for the 2027–2030 Capital Plan, to be finalized in July 2026, providing a timely opportunity to prioritize



and align a Beaconsfield Park turf field upgrade with upcoming capital investment decisions;

- 11. The Italian Canadian sports Federation Columbus FC is actively exploring ways to contribute private or partnership funding toward project enhancements, such as viewing stands or auxiliary features, further reducing the financial burden on the City; and
- 12. Given that Beaconsfield Park already has field lighting and is situated in a central, high-demand area, the conversion to synthetic turf is both strategic and cost-effective. With the upcoming FIFA 2026 World Cup and the growing popularity of soccer in Vancouver, accelerating this project also aligns with city-wide objectives to enhance sports infrastructure.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board direct staff to prioritize the Beaconsfield Park gravel field turf upgrade for inclusion in the 2027–2030 Capital Plan, recognizing the strategic opportunity presented by community demand, existing site readiness, and the global momentum of FIFA 2026.
- B. THAT staff be directed to work with the local Italian Canadian sports Federation Columbus FC and community stakeholders to (but not limited to):
 - i. Determine the project scope and cost estimates for the turf field upgrade.
 - ii. Assess the potential for cost-sharing or private contributions, including the club's expressed interest in funding viewing stands.
 - iii. Review and incorporate the club's submitted proposal and related communications.
- C. THAT staff report back to the Board no later than Q1 2026 with a detailed feasibility and funding framework to inform Capital Plan finalization and potential partnerships.
- D. THAT the Park Board affirm its commitment to expanding access to safe, equitable, and high-quality soccer infrastructure across Vancouver as the city prepares to welcome global attention and increased participation during the FIFA 2026 host cycle.

ⁱ On June 3, 2025, Council approved the renewal of the synthetic turf field at Vancouver Technical Secondary School, as identified in the 2023-2026 Capital Plan and 2025 Park Board Capital Budget.