



MOTION ON NOTICE

Submitted at the Regular Board meeting held on July 7, 2025

Think Home Run

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Virdi

WHEREAS:

1. Jericho Little League (JLL) is a long-standing, volunteer-run, not-for-profit organization that has provided meaningful athletic opportunities for children in Vancouver for decades, serving approximately 450 children aged 4 to 12 annually, and delivering high-quality programming that relies heavily on City park infrastructure;
2. JLL uses various Vancouver parks including Jericho Beach Park, Trimble Park, and Carnarvon Park for its baseball programs;
3. JLL has proposed the construction of a new enclosed baseball training facility at Carnarvon Park, near 16th Avenue and Mackenzie Street, utilizing the existing footprint of the current batting cage and bullpen area, ensuring that no additional green space will be impacted;
4. The proposed facility would be fully funded by JLL through donations and corporate sponsorships, resulting in no capital or operating costs to the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation;
5. Once built, the facility would be operated and maintained in partnership with Park Board, and would be made available not only to Jericho Little League players, but all local baseball clubs, teams, and youth development programs, thereby maximizing community access and expanding use across a broader recreational base;
6. The enclosed nature of the facility would provide year-round access to baseball training for children and youth, particularly during winter and rainy months, supporting the Park Board's broader objectives to promote equity in access, youth participation, and lifelong physical activity;
7. The proposed facility is inspired by and modeled on successful precedents, such as the UBC Rose Indoor Training Centre, a high-demand resource for winter baseball training, though the Carnarvon Park version would be scaled appropriately for community-level use;
8. JLL has consistently demonstrated responsible stewardship of public facilities, maintaining the current Carnarvon Park batting cage at no cost to the City, and has committed to continuing that responsibility with this proposed facility;
9. Carnarvon Park is scheduled to host the B.C. Little League Majors Provincial Championship tournament in 2027, underscoring the importance of the site as a regional sports venue and further supporting the need for modern, year-round training infrastructure. *(In 2025, the same tournament will be hosted at Trout Lake Park.)*



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to work collaboratively with Jericho Little League to explore the feasibility of constructing and operating an enclosed community baseball training facility at Carnarvon Park, including but not limited to:

- i. Assessing site suitability and potential design or environmental considerations;
- ii. Evaluating operational logistics, including access, scheduling, and community use;
- iii. Identifying and analyzing potential community benefits, especially for equity-seeking and underserved youth populations;
- iv. Investigating the financial structure, including the potential for a revenue-sharing arrangement with JLL to ensure long-term sustainability and potential Park Board benefit;
- v. Engagement with existing user groups and key stakeholders, including but not limited to soccer leagues, multi-sport organizations, residents, and other park users, to ensure transparency, collaboration, and effective shared use of the park space;

AND FURTHER THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to report back to the Board by Q1 of 2026, with findings, recommendations, and proposed next steps, including community engagement opportunities, a review of comparable facility models, and guidance to support an informed decision on advancing the proposed partnership.