



October 09, 2024

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners
FROM : Director, Park Planning and Development
SUBJECT : **Sports Fields Update – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide the Board with status updates of ongoing funded sports fields projects including the following: John Hendry Park Little League Diamond Renewal, Lighting at Kitsilano Secondary School and Hillcrest Mini Field, Van Tech Synthetic Turf Field Renewal, Kerrisdale Park – Point Grey School Track and Field Upgrades, Killarney Track and Field Upgrades, The Sports Field Strategy, the New Synthetic Turf Field in southeast Vancouver and the Andy Livingstone synthetic turf field renewal projects.

This memo provides an update on sports field related subjects described in previous Board briefing memos from [May 26, 2023](#), [July 7, 2023](#), [November 23](#), the Sports Field Development Update staff presentation from [October 16, 2023](#), and the board briefing memo from [April 11, 2024](#).

PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

The sports fields projects described in this memo are currently underway and continue to progress. Relevant project phases, timelines and target dates for completion are stated:

John Hendry Park Little League Diamond and Rugby Field Renewal

The renewal of the Little League diamonds is well underway and is expected to complete in time for the League to host the 2025 Provincial Championships. The renewal work for the rugby field and two ball diamonds includes leveling, seeding, installation of new grass infields, irrigation improvements and replacement of aging infrastructure such as backstops, dugouts and fencing. The League has requested that the Park Board provide additional upgrades and amenities at this location and staff are currently in discussion with the League on outcomes for the \$100K MTU funding approved by Council for these upgrades.

Lighting at Kitsilano Secondary School and Hillcrest Mini Field

Both Kitsilano Secondary School and Hillcrest Mini Field lighting projects completed detailed design in Q2 2024. Construction is underway at Hillcrest mini-field with completion targeted for late 2024. A Joint Use License with the Vancouver School Board (“VSB”) for community use of the field at Kitsilano Secondary School outside of school hours and weekends and prior to lighting installation is under discussion with VSB and once executed, Staff will seek Council endorsement to proceed with the Kitsilano sports-field lighting.

Field Lighting Replacement (Strathcona, Beaconsfield, Clinton, Killarney and Oak Parks)

Several high mast sport field lights on all-weather fields are at the end of their service life and being replaced. The field lighting design has finished, and construction completion is anticipated in Q1 2025. All existing lighting infrastructure has been removed at Beaconsfield, Clinton, Killarney, and Oak Parks. Lighting replacement for the four sites will be conducted through 2025 following the priorities defined by the approved Sports Field Strategy. Staff received funding for these lighting replacements through the Mid-Term Capital Update (MTU), renewal design is currently underway. The renewal designs will be future facing, to allow conversion to synthetic turf in accordance with the Sports Field Strategy. The sport field permitting office will be considering the reduced service level caused by lighting outages in the fall and winter of 2024-2025 booking schedules, and Staff are investigating temporary lighting measures, which if deemed technically feasible will be operational in late October to support user groups at Beaconsfield and Oak Parks given these locations are the most heavily booked.

Kerrisdale Park – Point Grey Track and Field Upgrades

Construction nearly complete at Kerrisdale Park - Point Grey Secondary Track and Field. Construction began in December 2023 with re-opening by early November.

Killarney Track and Field Upgrades

Detailed design and permitting drawings are complete for the Killarney Track and Field Upgrades and construction services procurement (tender) is currently in progress. A contract award is scheduled for Q1 2025 and construction to follow in early 2025 and substantial completion targeted by early 2026.

VanTech Synthetic Turf Field Renewal

The synthetic turf field renewal at Vancouver Technical Secondary school is in the construction services procurement (tender) phase. Construction is anticipated to complete by Q1 2025.

Sports Field Strategy

The Park Board approved the [Sports Field Strategy](#) in June 2024. The Strategy guides sports field development, management and maintenance decision-making for the next 10+ years and provides a basis for ongoing capital and operating plans and budgets, informing in-stream and future projects.

New Synthetic Turf Field in Southeast Vancouver - Moberly Park

In June 2024, Park Board Commissioners approved plans to build a new synthetic turf field, walking loop and field house with accessible washrooms in Moberly Park. The Board also directed staff to proceed with assigning field hockey as the field's primary sport use, following engagement with the local community and existing park users. Staff are currently advancing this project and will be posting a request for proposals (RFP) for consulting services in Q42024.



Andy Livingstone Synthetic Turf Renewal

At present, the two synthetic turf fields at Andy Livingstone Park are not fully booked due to their worn and compacted condition. Staff estimate that field renewal will increase field booking permit hours from 4,500 to 6,000 hours and increase revenues. On July 24, 2024, City Council approved the Mid-Term Capital Update (MTU), including \$5.5M in funding for the renewal of these two fields. Project scoping is now underway, and construction is anticipated to be completed by late 2025. Existing drainage and compaction issues will be addressed as part of the works. These fields are providing less cushioning for users than synthetic turf fields in good condition, and therefore signs will be erected on site advising users of this issue and the permit type and fee structure on these fields will match those of all-weather fields until the field renewal is complete. This information will be communicated to impacted user groups.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tiina Mack".

Tiina Mack (*she/her*)

Director, Park Planning and Development – Vancouver Parks and Recreation

is/dh/an/vt

Copy to: PB Leadership Team
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Ben Mulhall, Senior Project Manager
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