



August 18, 2025

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Unsolicited Proposal – Grays Park Basketball Court Upgrade – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

This memo informs you of the first successful unsolicited proposal under the 'Think Big' Action Plan's Unsolicited Proposal Process. The project is fully funded by the Vancouver Bandits, a professional basketball team in the Canadian Elite Basketball League and delivers significant upgrades to the basketball court at Grays Park. This milestone marks a promising start to this new pathway for generating public benefit through strategic partnerships.

Background and Context:

The Vancouver Bandits submitted a proposal to fund a basketball court project in July 2024. Park Board staff evaluated and administered the proposal and collaborated with the Bandits and the basketball community (RainCity Basketball Club) to proceed with the following upgrades:

- New sports surface coating (delivered by Tomko)
- New basketball posts, backboards, hoops, and nets
- Relocated baseboards for improved safety
- Expanded pedestrian pathway
- Two new players' benches
- Replacement of two impacted trees with four new trees

The estimated value of the upgrades is \$60,000. Park Board staff will deliver or oversee (surface coating) all construction work to ensure it aligns with City standards. The Bandits have not requested any form of branding, recognition, or special access privileges in exchange for their investment.

Next Steps

The public will be informed of the planned court upgrades via on-site signage and a project webpage. Construction is scheduled for August/September 2025, followed by a full public reopening. Park Board staff will celebrate this initiative and recognize the Bandits' contribution on social media, on the web, and through an information bulletin.



This project exemplifies the goals of the Unsolicited Proposal Process: fostering strategic partnerships that enhance public spaces without burdening the City's capital budget. It demonstrates the potential of this process to attract high-quality, community-oriented investment and improve amenities for all residents.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SJ" followed by a long horizontal stroke.

Steve Jackson *(he/him)*
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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Copy to: PB Leadership Team
PB Communications