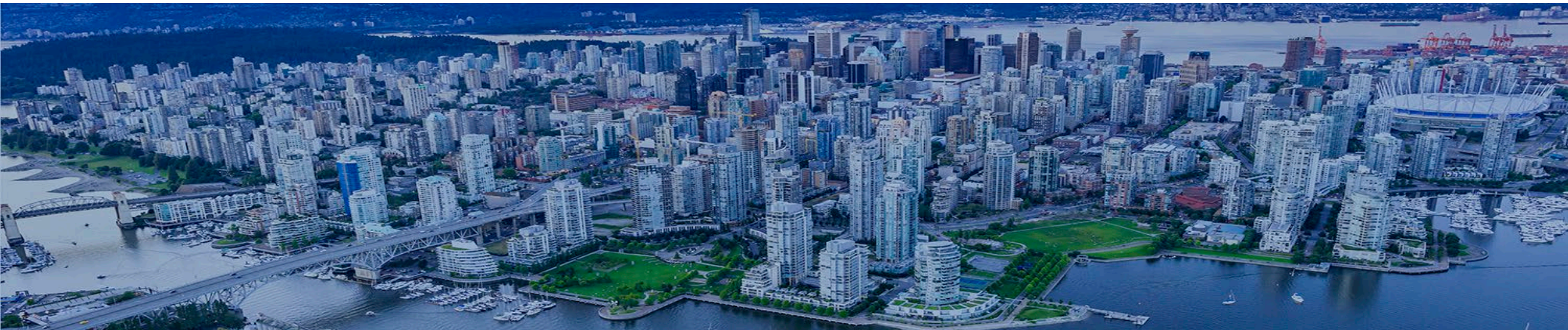
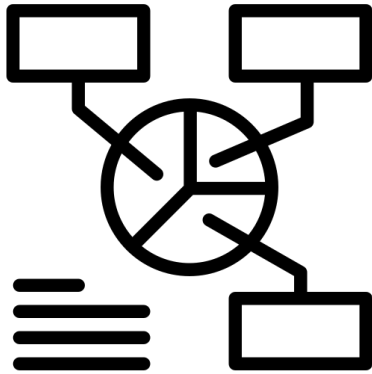


Provincial *Growing Communities Fund*: Recommended Initial Allocation to City Projects





Objective: Request Council approval for the initial allocation of the Provincial “Growing Communities Fund” grant

1. Overview of the Provincial “Growing Communities Fund” grant
2. City of Vancouver’s Allocation Process and Criteria
3. Recommended Initial Allocation to City Projects
4. Overview of Other Candidate Projects and Next Steps
5. Questions/Discussion

1. Overview of the Provincial “Growing Communities Fund”

- **Goal of funding program:** to support delivery of infrastructure projects to enable community growth in BC.
- **City of Vancouver allocation: \$49.1 million**
- **Provincial monitoring & oversight:**
 - Requirement to report back on an annual basis with information on the progress of the projects, and any unused funding which is yet to be allocated towards initiatives.
 - Requirement to provide an annual report that identifies work-related Housing Needs Reports and pre-zoning requirements as applicable

Many, but not all categories in the City's Capital plan are eligible for GCF grant:

Eligible for GCF funding:	Ineligible for GCF funding:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Affordable housing• Childcare• Parks & Public Open Spaces• Community facilities: recreation (includes libraries)• Public safety• Streets/transportation• Potable water, rainwater and wastewater• Solid waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arts, culture & heritage• Community facilities: social facilities, non-profit offices, cemetery• Civic facilities & equipment• Renewable energy• Technology

- Municipality must **own the asset**
- Funds cannot be used to provide contributions to third parties (**no grants**)
- Funds **cannot be used** for ongoing or **operational activities**
- Funds must be **incremental to currently planned investments**
- Funds should **accelerate delivery of capital projects**
- Funding must be **spent by March 31, 2028**, i.e. within 5 years

2. CoV's Allocation Process and Criteria

In line with the 2023-2026 Capital Plan goals and objectives, staff established a set of criteria to identify and rank projects for funding recommendations:

1. Projects must be **consistent with the Provincial eligibility requirements**
2. Projects that **can be delivered within the term of the 2023-2026 Capital Plan**
3. Projects with **clearly defined outcomes**

In addition, projects must meet at least one of the below criteria to be prioritized:

- Additional funding could **increase scope or accelerate project schedule** in the 2023-2026 Capital Plan
- **Previously de-scoped or deferred due to insufficient funding** in current and prior capital plan
- **Limited access to** other senior government grant programs or other **funding opportunities**
- Address **emerging health and safety issues**

3. Candidate Projects' Overview

\$25.5M

**Initial recommendation for allocation
to projects that meet the criteria and are ready to commence**

Converting temporary public plazas to permanent spaces	Improve Beatty St Protected Bike Lane to permanent configuration	Transportation safety & accessibility improvements	Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre	Renovation of Central Children's Library Phase 2	Fire Hall # 2 Temporary Annex
\$10 million	\$2 million	\$3 million	\$3 million	\$4.5 million	\$3 million

Note: Staff will report back with recommendations for the allocation of the remaining \$23.6 million no later than the 2023-2026 Capital Plan Mid-term Update

Converting temporary public plazas to permanent spaces

Current Funding	Recommended GCF Allocation
\$ 5.8 M	\$10.0 M



Scope of recommended allocation

- To convert three existing temporary plazas to permanent and widen sidewalks at one location.

Schedule

- Expected to be delivered before the end of 2026

Background/Rationale

- Because these plazas have successfully been in place for several years as temporary spaces there is an opportunity for rapid implementation that will deliver near-term benefits to the community.
- The requested funding will deliver key services to support programming of these plazas – such as access to water and electrical – as well as improvements to make them more accessible and welcoming places in advance of FIFA.

Improve Beatty St Protected Bike Lane to permanent configuration

Current Funding (Active Transportation & Complete Streets Program)	Recommended GCF Allocation
\$38.4 M	\$2.0 M



Scope of recommended allocation

- To convert the existing Beatty St Bike lane into a permanent configuration between Smithe St. and Georgia St.

Schedule

- Expected to be delivered before the end of 2026

Background/Rationale

- Current lane installed in 2016 using interim materials
- Reaching end of life
- Challenges with BC Place events – important to improve pre-FIFA
- The \$2.0M would help leverage external funding to complete project
- Improvements will:
 - increase capacity and usage,
 - improve safety for all road users,
 - allow for more flexible street use, including use during FIFA.

Transportation safety improvements

Current Funding	Recommended GCF Allocation
\$2.0 M	\$3.0 M



Potential scope of recommended allocation

- Cornwall speed reduction improvements
- Arterial school zone speed reductions and enhancements
- Additional 9 Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacons
- Improved pedestrian crossings at six locations
- Addition of 15 slow zones in selected neighbourhoods
- Creation of one pedestrian scramble

Schedule

- Expected to be delivered before the end of 2026

Background/Rationale

- The program is in high demand from Vancouver residents
- Additional funding will maximize capacity to deliver

Marpole-Oakridge Community Centre

Current Funding	Recommended GCF Allocation
\$85.0 M	\$3.0 M



Scope of recommended allocation

- Additional multi-purpose room space and an outdoor amphitheatre

Schedule

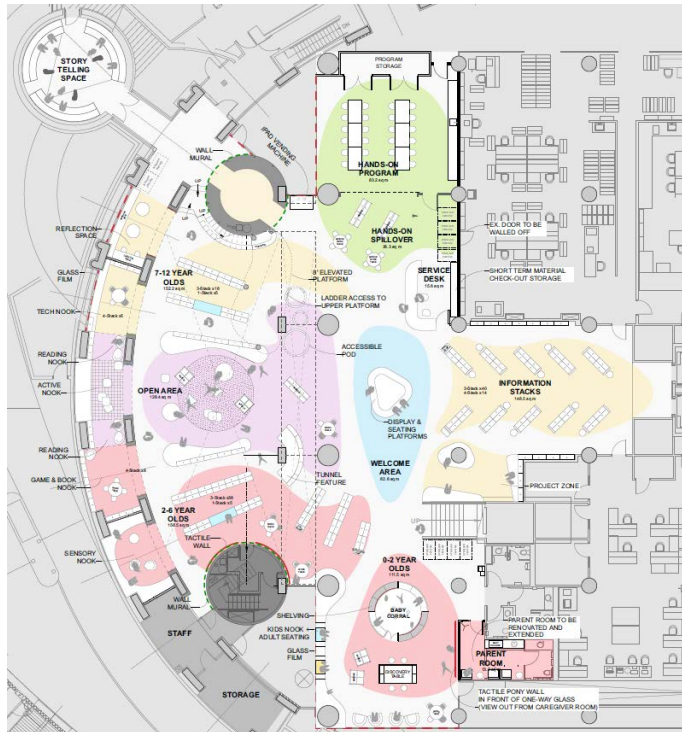
- Expected to be delivered before the end of 2026

Background/Rationale

- Funded in the 2019-2022 Capital Plan
- Current scope includes renewal and expansion of the community centre and fieldhouse as well as a new 74-space childcare.
- Additional amenities were de-scoped in response to cost escalation.
- Park Board staff and neighbourhood stakeholders have confirmed utility and desire for the additional amenities.

Renovation of Central Children's Library Phase 2

Current Funding	Recommended GCF Allocation
\$3.5 M	\$4.5 M



Scope of recommended allocation

- Phase 2 includes program areas for 6-12 year olds, dedicated space for children with sensory needs, floor and acoustic upgrades, new design of the existing nooks, and new book stacks.

Schedule

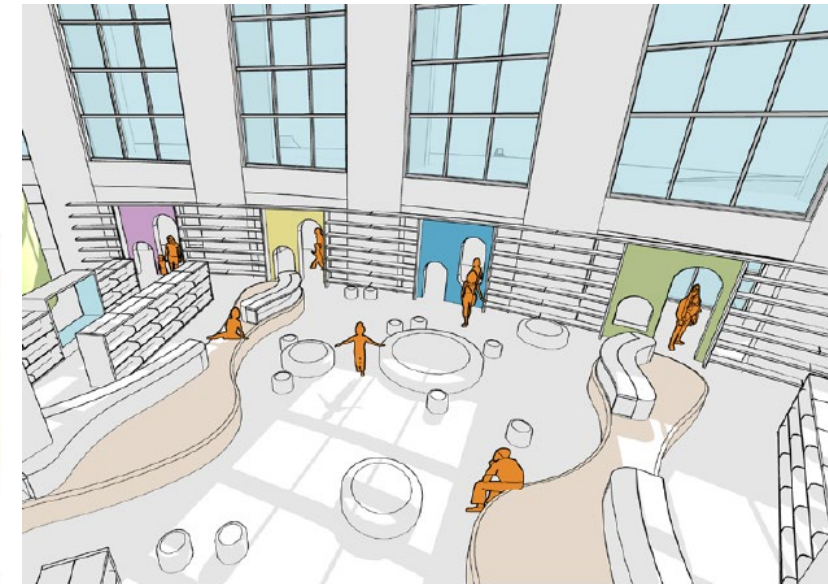
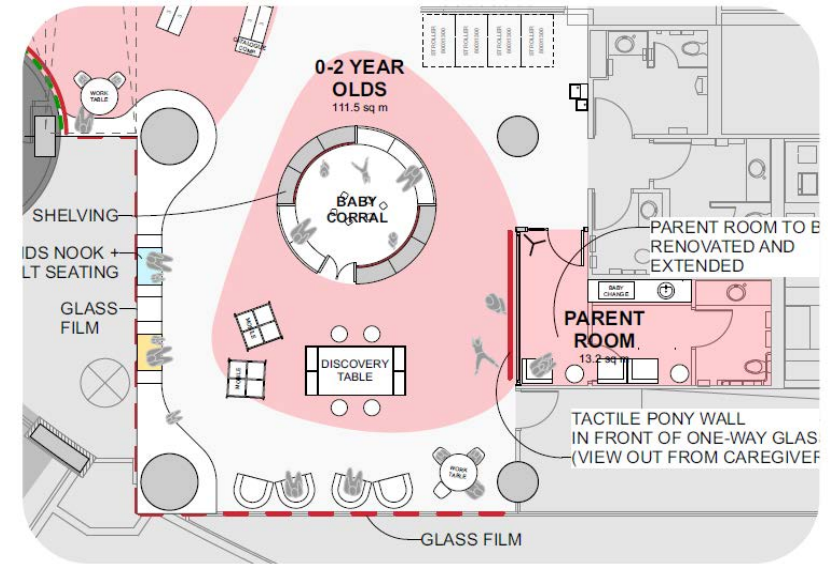
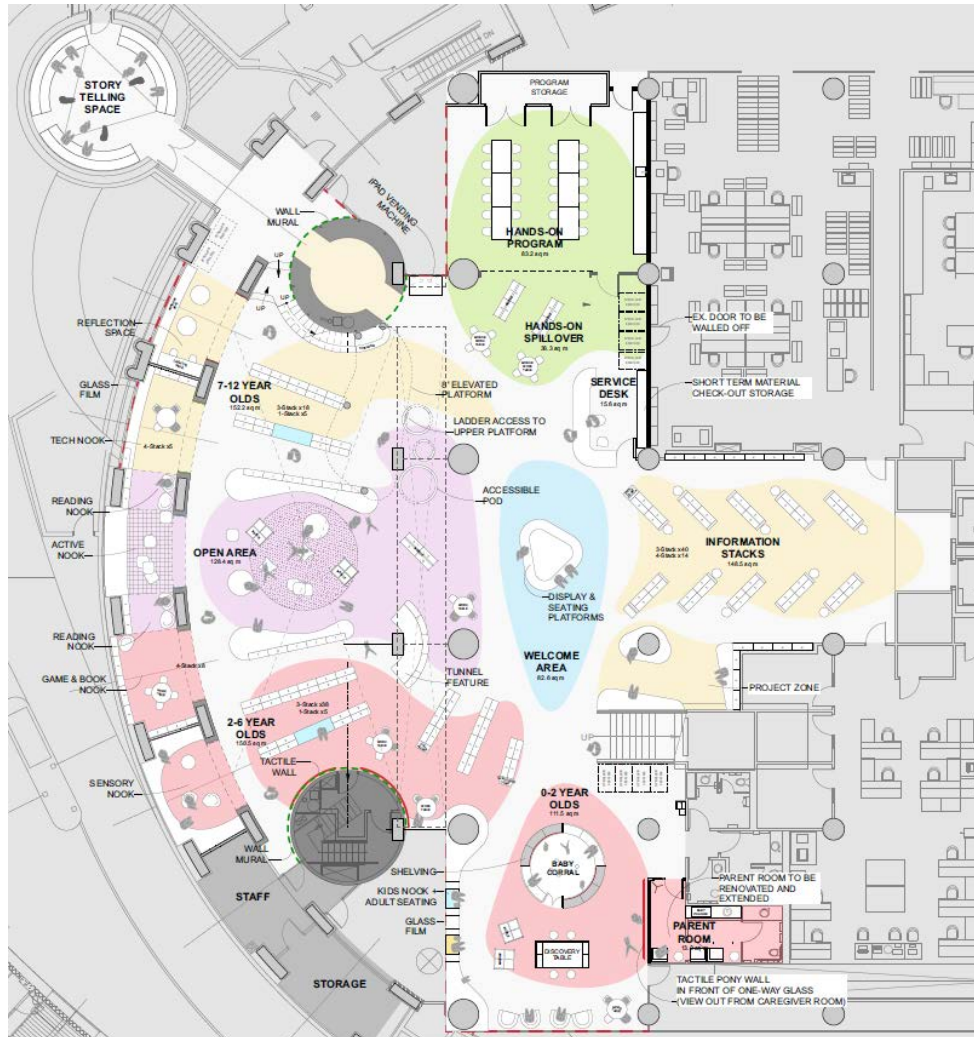
- Expected to be delivered before the end of 2025

Background/Rationale

- The first phase for this project is funded in the 2023-26 Capital Plan (\$3.5M donation from the VPL Foundation).
- This first phase will add a hands-on programming room, an early learning space for ages 0-6 and multi-level play structures.
- Delivery of both phases at once will generate cost savings.

Community Facilities

Renovation of Central Children's Library Phase 2



Downtown East Side Fire Hall 2 - Annex

Current Funding	Recommended GCF Allocation
-	\$3.0 M



Scope of recommended allocation

- Addition of a temporary annex to support Fire Hall #2

Schedule

- Expected to be delivered by the end of 2025

Background/Rationale

- Fire Hall # 2 is the busiest hall in Vancouver (6x busier than the average CoV Fire Hall)
- Over the last 6 years, Council has approved operating funding for two additional rescue crews to address response issues in the DTES.
- The consequence is overcrowding at Fire Hall # 2 resulting in health and safety issues.

4. Other Projects Considered and Next Steps

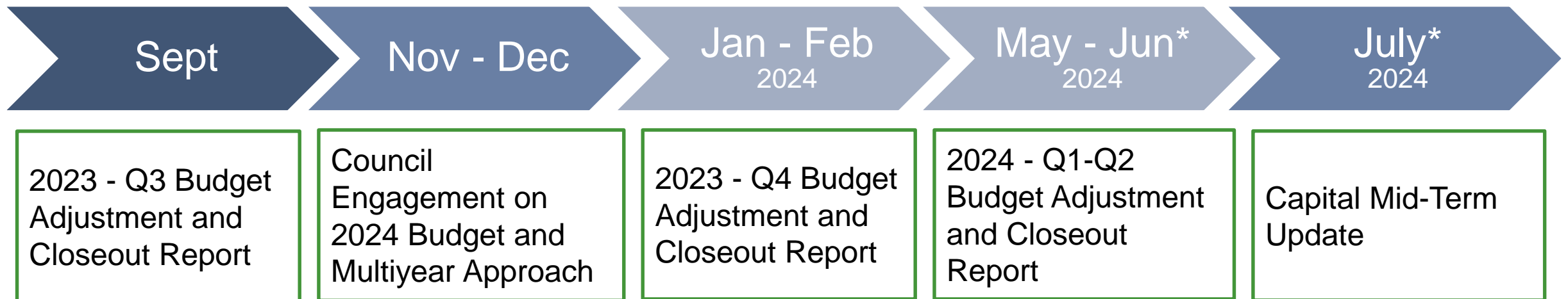
Additional Candidate Projects

Vancouver Aquatic Centre	New & Renewed Sports Fields & Diamonds	Access to Washrooms in Public Realm	Accessibility & Inclusion Improvements
\$10 - \$25 million	\$3 - \$5 million	\$2 - \$3 million	\$4 - \$5 million

- Staff will continue to work on refining scope and cost estimates for this four identified candidate projects
- Staff will review other emerging projects that could be eligible for the GCF grant

Next Steps - Recommendations and Allocation

- To facilitate rapid deployment of the grant and delivery of funding projects, staff are aiming to provide recommendations for allocation of the remaining GCF grant **within the next 12 months.**
- These recommendations will be brought to Council for consideration through either of the following planned Council engagements:



*Exact dates to be determined

5. Questions