

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on
September 17, 2025*

3. Accelerating the Turf Field Upgrade at Beaconsfield Park for Inclusion in the 2027-2030 Capital Plan

Submitted by: Councillor Dominato

WHEREAS

1. The Sport Field Strategy currently prioritizes the Beaconsfield Park gravel field for conversion to a turf field in the 2031- 2034 Capital Plan;
2. At the July 7, 2025, meeting of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, a motion entitled "*Accelerating the Turf Field Upgrade at Beaconsfield Park for Inclusion in the 2027-2030 Capital Plan*" was unanimously supported by the Park Board Commissioners;
3. Park Board staff have been directed to report back no later than Q1 2026 with a detailed feasibility and funding framework to inform Capital Plan finalization and potential partnerships;
4. 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 for Council to prioritize and align a Beaconsfield Park turf field upgrade with upcoming capital investment decisions;
5. The rationales presented at Park Board for accelerating the turf field upgrade at Beaconsfield Park are equally valid for Council. These include:
 - 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;
 - The Italian Canadian Sports Federation (ICSF) 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;
 - In future, the Britannia Micro Footie Soccer Program could potentially deliver soccer programming at Beaconsfield Park;
 - Vancouver is a host city for FIFA World Cup 2026 and global attention and community engagement in the sport are expected to surge further in the years immediately preceding and following the tournament;

- Soccer is widely regarded to be one of the most accessible and inclusive sports, as it can be adapted for all abilities and is played and followed in nearly every country around the world;
 - 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;
 - Synthetic turf fields can accommodate approximately 3.5 times more usage annually than natural grass fields, making them a more efficient investment for high-demand sports like soccer;
 - 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;
 - An accelerated synthetic turf field at Beaconsfield Park would exist in close proximity to the renewed turf field at Vancouver Technical Secondary School, creating opportunities for new synergies and the hosting of tournaments and competitions; ¹
 - ICSF 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;
6. The proposal to accelerate the Beaconsfield Park turf field conversion aligns well with the goals and objectives of the VanPlay Master Plan, the Sport Field Strategy, and the recently adopted Rupert and Renfrew Station Area Plan; and
7. Given that Beaconsfield Park already has field lighting and is situated in a central, high-demand area, the accelerated conversion to synthetic turf is both strategic and cost-effective and aligns with city-wide objectives to enhance sports infrastructure.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED THAT Council 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 synergies, and the global momentum of FIFA 2026;

FURTHER THAT staff be directed to work with their Park Board counterparts to facilitate any and all actions required to support the prioritization, acceleration, and inclusion of the Beaconsfield Park gravel field turf upgrade in the 2027–2030 Capital Plan.

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¹ 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.