

Topaz Park Improvement Plan- Victoria High School Sport Field Project

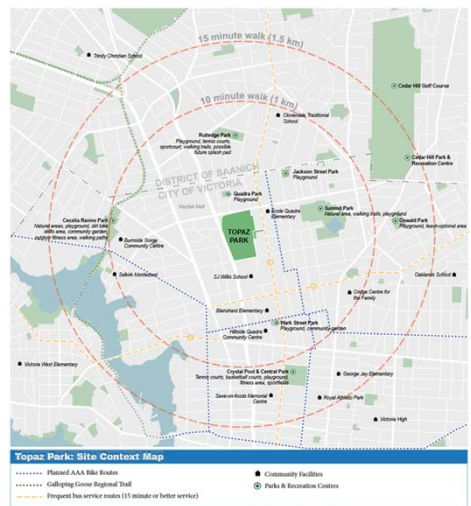
Committee of the Whole

June 6, 2019



Purpose

Review implementation of
the Topaz Park
and Victoria High School
Sport Field Projects



Background

- **2014** – Council approved a commitment of **\$250,000** in matching funds towards the renewal of sport facilities at Victoria High School
- **2018** – Council approved the Topaz Park Improvement Plan, including the renewal and expansion of the artificial turf field
- **2019** – Council approved **\$430,000** for detailed design work associated with the expansion of the artificial turf field
- **2019** – Vic High Alumni Association confirmed that **\$300,000** has been raised to-date for the first phase of the project



Background – Topaz Park

- Currently the artificial turf (all-weather) field at Topaz Park is the only one in the city, and at end-of-life
- Topaz Park Plan calls for the removal of a high-quality field/diamond in the southern area of the park, to make way for a new suite of amenities (skatepark, bike track, courts)
- Second artificial turf sport field will help meet existing demand from field/diamond sport groups
- Approximately \$1,000,000 in reserve for the Topaz Park artificial turf field replacement



Background – Topaz Park



Current park layout



Approved concept plan



Background

- Originally proposed in 2011, the new sport field at Victoria High School will provide a valuable amenity for students and the wider community



Concept plan for
Victoria High School project



Analysis

- Replacing, but not expanding, the artificial turf field at Topaz Park does not compromise Plan objectives; less complex
- Partnering with stakeholders on the Victoria High School project is cost-effective
- Investing the City's previous commitment (\$250,000) toward the detailed design of the Victoria High School field project would assist partners with progressing this initiative
- Only impact to Topaz Park users relates to hosting of large tournaments, which would need to occur across multiple sites
- Major field user group is supportive of proposed change



Analysis

- Opportunity for a single contractor to complete the design work for **both** Topaz Park field and Victoria High School field in 2019, with capital funding already approved (\$430,000)
- City would remain responsible for the artificial turf field at Topaz Park; School District would remain responsible for field at Victoria High School
- Collaboration on the design and operation of these amenities aligns with previous Council direction



Recommendation

That Council;

1. Approve an amendment to the Topaz Park Improvement Plan, to replace the existing artificial turf field with a new similar size field, subject to stakeholder notification; and
2. Approve an amendment to the 2019 Financial Plan to allocate the capital funding (\$430,000) previously approved for the Topaz Park artificial turf field expansion, to detailed design work for the replacement of the Topaz Park field and the Victoria High School sport field project

