

BRIEFING

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Item # 11.2

Community Services Briefing to
Community Development Committee
2021 December 08

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Calgary Recreation Revised Capital Investment Strategy – Progress Update

PURPOSE OF BRIEFING

As directed by Council, this briefing provides a progress update on phasing and construction timelines for six projects included in the *Revised Calgary Recreation Capital Investment Strategy* (C2021-0911). On 2021 June 21, Council approved a capital budget increase of \$154M towards these projects.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

Access to recreation infrastructure is a cornerstone of vibrant, complete communities and healthy individuals. It contributes to physical literacy and skill development for all ages and abilities, promotes active living and social connections.

The capital investment strategy developed by Administration and approved by Council includes six priority projects to address:

- City-wide service gaps for practice and play space in new and established areas of Calgary,
- Aging recreation infrastructure and associated service inefficiencies, and
- Equitable distribution of in-demand amenities.

The projects include: one athletic park each in Saddle Ridge and Rocky Ridge; one regional fieldhouse each in Skyview Ranch and Belmont; an air inflated structure (dome) at the Calgary Soccer Centre and a twin arena at Glenmore Athletic Park.

The \$154M investment will increase access to recreation opportunities for underserved areas in Calgary, allowing more Calgarians to be more active, more often.

Projects Update

Since Council approval, Administration has been actively resourcing and executing on early stages of project development. A multi-disciplinary team of project managers and specialists in planning, sport development, operations, finance, engagement, and communication has been assembled and planning for the projects is underway.

Engagement planning for each project is proceeding in alignment with project timelines. Depending on the unique attributes of each facility and its location, engagement approaches will draw participation as needed from the public, sport organizations, user groups, area Councillors, partner organizations, and local community associations.

Sequencing of individual projects and targeted opening dates will occur up to 2027. Detailed opening schedules will be managed with the recreation community to allow adjustments to booking practices and capacity absorption. Updates on each project are:

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Calgary Soccer Centre Air Inflated Structure (Dome)

A project was underway at the Calgary Soccer Centre to convert the remaining natural turf outdoor field into an artificial turf field. The Dome will cover this field. Site investigation, planning, conceptual and detailed design, and contract documentation are expected to be completed by end of 2021 December. Construction is expected to start in Q2 2022 and be completed for the winter 2022 season.

Rocky Ridge Athletic Park

Located on a 23-acre parcel in northwest Calgary adjacent the Shane Homes YMCA, the Rocky Ridge Athletic Park project includes construction of two outdoor fields and supporting amenities (e.g. dressing rooms, spectator seating, etc.). This is the first phase of a larger athletic complex that will eventually include a regional fieldhouse. The project aligns with Council direction “Update on New Recreation Facilities in the Southeast and Northwest” (PFC2012-0248).

Land use planning activities were completed in 2021 September and conceptual design activities are expected to be completed by end of 2021 December. Detailed design and contract documentation activities will immediately follow and are expected to allow construction to start in Q3 2022 and be completed by Q4 2023, in time for the 2024 season.

Glenmore Twin-ice Arena

The new twin-ice arena at Glenmore Athletic Park will replace the aging, single sheet Stu Peppard Arena that was identified for replacement as part of the Foothills and Glenmore Athletic Park Master Plans approved by Council in 2010 (CPS2010-47).

Preliminary investigations have been completed with conceptual designs expected to be completed by Q4 2021 following consultations with project stakeholders. Detailed design, contract documentation and construction are planned to allow an opening during the 2025 season.

Belmont & Skyview Regional Fieldhouses

The new regional fieldhouses are the first phases of integrated optimized recreation facilities located in the southwest community of Belmont and northeast community of Skyview Ranch. The fieldhouses will include a multi-sport rectangular field space able to accommodate various playing surfaces and supporting amenities.

As part of on-going planning activities, stakeholder engagement will help refine the proposed amenity mix and create a master plan for the sites to accommodate comprehensive recreation facilities in the future. Community and stakeholder engagement will begin in 2022, with the Belmont Fieldhouse anticipated to be completed by 2025 and the Skyview Fieldhouse by 2026.

Saddle Ridge Athletic Park

The Saddle Ridge Athletic Park will be located on Municipal Reserve (MR) land in the northeast. The parcel was identified through the outline planning process for Saddle Ridge Industrial Park. The athletic park will include four multi-purpose artificial turf fields and supporting amenities. Scheduling of the project is dependent on timing of the subdivision application by the landowner and land acquisition. The athletic park is anticipated to open in 2027 based on current land development progress.

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Anticipated timelines for each facility are listed in the table below. Updates on individual projects will be communicated to respective ward Councillors. Information will also be kept current on calgary.ca.

Anticipated Project Schedules

