

Attachment 3: Parks Development Funding Program Public engagement summary – Spring / Summer 2019

Letters of Support



Attachment 3:

Letters from Neighbourhood Associations

New approach to funding our future parks

I am in general agreement with the funding proposal as presented by Parks & Buildings Planning Manager, Robert Parlane

I believe <u>our</u> neighbourhood has already aligned itself favourably with the acquisition and development proposal being presented.

The Kettle Valley development project has a higher than normal number of parks and it is my understanding that the developer's engineers worked diligently together with City planners to make this happen by providing both neighbourhood and community parks in its original plan.

As a result, the amount of green space within short walking distance of the homes here, compared to most Kelowna communities, were a key "quality of life" element in our decision to build a home in this area.

It has been my home now for 20 years.

Therefore, I would fully support any one of the financial proposals being put forward that will best support the Future Parks Funding submission's acceptance into the OCP.

From my view, if Council were to be in agreement, future generations will praise it for its forward-looking view of the quality of life for its residents.

Len McFarlane Chairman, Kettle Valley Neighbourhood Association From: Dr. Paul Clark, Optometrist

To: Melanie Steppuhn

Subject:Proposed Park Development Funding ProgramDate:Thursday, September 05, 2019 11:23:05 AMAttachments:IRIS 3d73bd7d-232b-4322-bea2-5ec2079181e6.png

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

Msteppuhn@kelowna.ca

Dear Melanie

September 5, 2019.

Proposed Park Development Funding Program,

Credit must be given to city council for directing staff to analyze infrastructure spending short falls which have accumulated over ten years.

City staff have effectively analyzed and shown the need for more 'park development' funding. They have compared Kelowna to other similar sized cities and shown how funding could be improved by shifting funding away from general revenue (current taxpayers)and more on the taxation at the time of development, DCC's.

As a neighbourhood association waiting 30 years for Pandosy Waterfront Park (Cedar Park) to be funded for development, we support this change in funding strategy. We understand that the program will effectively *triple* the current rate of park development, going from approximately \$3.5 million per year for park development to approximately \$10 million per year.

We understand that our park is not the only park needing to be built but we would hope this new funding source would advance the date of completion to be earlier than 2028.

When presented to city council, we would urge all councillors to support it.

Paul Clark KLO Neighbourhood Assn.

Paul Clark OD Kelowna Knowles House – 865 Bernard Avenue, Kelowna, BC <u>www.ksan-kelowna.ca</u>

Mayor Basran and Councillors City of Kelowna 1435 Water Street Kelowna BC V1Y 1J4 September 6, 2019

Dear Mayor Basran and Councillors,

Re: KSAN Endorsement of Park Funding Program: Full Implementation of DCC Program and Inclusion of 5% Parkland Dedication at Subdivision

We are astounded and deeply troubled that past Kelowna City Councils have **not** ensured Kelowna residents have benefited from Park Funding tools available under the Local Government Act since 1985. Millions of dollars have been lost due to NOT using Development Cost Charges (DCCs) and the 5% Parkland Dedication at Subdivision. Why? This is truly a travesty and explains why Kelowna is such a laggard in regard to parks development and residents have been the losers.

The good news is this City Council now has an opportunity to remedy the situation and provide a lasting legacy to current and future citizens of Kelowna.

Robert Parlane and his planning team have prepared a comprehensive report and future road map for parks development. However we are disappointed the June 17th Staff Report only recommends Model A (Full Implementation of DCCs) and does not include the 5% Parkland Dedication at Subdivision. KSAN strongly urges not only the full implementation of DCCs but also the use of 5% of land or cash in lieu at the time of subdivision. Why is Kelowna only one of 2 municipalities in BC to not avail itself of this tool to acquire parkland; especially during this time of unprecedented population growth?

As the June 17th Report to Council from Robert Parlane states "Parks and public spaces are the foundation of a dynamic, beautiful and livable City". The neighbourhoods KSAN represents are now considered "inner city" and are experiencing rapid redevelopment due to rezoning to higher density forms of housing; not to mention KGH. Residents are very concerned the livability of our blocks and neighbourhoods is in jeopardy. Neighbourhood parks, trees, playgrounds, safe bike paths and sidewalks are essential to a healthy environment for people of all ages.

We look forward to a desirable outcome.

With Best Wishes;

Erica

Erica Bell-Lowther, PhD, KSAN President and the KSAN Board



City of Kelowna 1435 Water St Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4

September 7, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council:

RE: Parks Development Funding Program

On behalf of the Quail Ridge Residents' Association, we would like to provide input into the Parks Development Funding Program.

We applaud the City for this undertaking and support the initiative to encourage development of parkland in the City of Kelowna. We also fully support the tax neutral funding concept that would implement a 5% fee or cash in lieu from developers to provide much needed parkland.

We were discouraged, however, that the funding program proposal states that your priority for parks does not include Quail Ridge and that the primary focus of the report is the concern with the lack of park space being provided in the City core where all the high rises are being built.

We would suggest that any future development in the Quail Ridge area should include park or green space like the other areas in our City. For example, the area on Quail Ridge Blvd across from the Okanagan Golf Course that was purchased -- will it remain ALR land? If not, any future development on this property should include park or green space, especially along the road side. As well, we would suggest that the City consider purchasing the Pier Mac land for park development.

In short, the Quail Ridge area is in need of more park space and further development of the existing small parks would be welcomed.

Thank you for your consideration.

THE QUAIL RIDGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION grraexec@gmail.com



Peter Pagliocchini

Rutland Residents Association President

September 4, 2019

To: Mayor Basran and City Council

1435 Water Street

Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 1J4

Re: City of Kelowna Park Funding Program

The Rutland Residents Association is very pleased to endorse the Park Funding Program.

Our city continues to grow at an incredibly fast rate. According to a recent Stats Can report, we are the fastest growing city in British Columbia and the fifth fastest growing metropolitan area in Canada. This same report cited that the 25 to 34 year olds make up the largest group moving to Kelowna.

Within the context of this growth the need for completing present park initiatives, as well as facilitating the development of more parks, becomes more crucial. Parks are essential in providing multi-faceted benefits for both young and old and as such they should be a major planning piece for Kelowna going forward.

You may recall that our Association has written letters to your Council regarding Rutland Centennial Park and how it represents a major focal point for our Rutland citizenry. The RRA has commended council for the quality of the phases that have been completed, but have also voiced our concerns regarding the length of time it has taken to bring it to full completion. Such concerns have been echoed by other Neighbourhood Associations and their own park initiatives have met with delays due to funding shortfalls.

The Parks Funding Program, if approved, will serve to triple the current rate of park development funding going from 3.5 million per year to 10 million per year. It should also be noted, that the Parks Funding Program is designed so development growth will help to pay for park growth thus lessening the pressure on general taxation. The program will also serve to triple the rate that it currently builds parks thus completing greatly needed parks in the various sectors of our city in a more expeditious manner.

We sincerely hope that Kelowna City Council will support the Park Funding Program and all the benefits that are encompassed within this program for our citizens young and old alike.,

Yours truly

Peter Pagliocchini

(RRA President) ppaglioc@hotmail.com



Attachment 3:

Letters from Institutions



September 10, 2019

Robert Parlane, Manager, Parks & Buildings Planning City of Kelowna 1435 Water Street Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4

Subject: Proposed City of Kelowna Parklands DCC charges

Thank you for the opportunity to express our position on the Parklands DCC Charges that are being proposed for public institutions.

In general, we recognize the importance and support the provision of parks for their considerable community benefits, including active living, physical and mental health and well-being, inclusivity, community connections, socializing, learning as well as for the protection of, and connection with, natural spaces. Parks, just like health facilities and services, are foundations of a healthy city.

We do not, however, support the proposed new Development Cost Charges for new, publicly funded healthcare institutions, for the following reasons:

- Health facilities are 'public amenities' that contribute to a healthy community. Just like parks, they promote physical and mental health. One public entity does not reasonably expect to fund another this is why public education and healthcare institutions are statutorily exempted from property taxation.
- **Healthcare institutions are publicly-funded**. Unlike commercial and industrial actors, public healthcare institutions cannot adjust their development *pro formas* to absorb, or pass on, new development charges. This means that additional DCC charges on institutions for parklands would typically lead to *a reduction in community health benefits*.
- Healthcare facilities provide active-living, health-promoting and community-building programs with much of the same healthy city benefits as parks.

For the reasons described above, we recommend the following:

1. Publicly funded institutions, such as those operated by Interior Health, be exempt from City of Kelowna Parklands DCCs.

Interior Health is committed to continuing to enhance our facilities and programs to support active living, physical and mental health and wellbeing, community-building, learning and cultural development. In this regard, we would be happy to explore with you additional joint initiatives while voicing our unambiguous support for the health and wellness benefits and essential community-building value of Kelowna's parks and the importance of creating stable, fair, and equitable public funding policy to create them.

Sincerely,

Donna Lommer

VP Support Services & Chief Financial Officer



September 10, 2019

City of Kelowna Doug Glichrist, City Manager Robert Parlane, Manager, Parks & Buildings Planning

Subject: City of Kelowna Parklands Proposal

Okanagan College is supportive of City of Kelowna plans to develop additional parkland. Parks provide substantial benefits for cities, communities and the people that make up these communities. City greenspace improves the quality of life for its citizens by encouraging active living and a connection to nature, providing space for community and cultural activities, improving air quality and strengthening people's connection to nature. Parks, like educational facilities, are an essential part of a healthy city.

The College appreciates that the City of Kelowna recognizes our contributions to make Kelowna a healthy community and that the City is proposing not to apply the proposed Park Development Cost Charges (DCC) to educational facilities for the following reasons:

- Education facilities are 'public amenities' that contribute to a healthy community. Like parks, schools promote physical and mental health, physical activity, community gathering, and learning.
- Education institutions are publicly-funded. Publically funded educational institutions are not able to adjust capital budgets to cover new development charges. Therefore, additional DCC charges may require the College to reduce educational services and facilities.
- Educational facilities provide active-living, health-promoting and community-building facilities and programs. The College provides many of the same healthy living benefits as parks with greenspaces, recreational facilities and a variety of community-serving programs and public events. Campus greenspaces are created and maintained as part of the College's Master Capital Plan.

Okanagan College will continue to work with the City to promote healthy living, community building and to provide greenspaces.

Sincerely,

Jim Hamilton President

Okanagan College

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR

Okanagan Campus ADM 102 - 1138 Alumni Avenue Kelowna, BC Canada V1V 1V7

Phone 250 807 9224 Fax 250 807 8449 deputy.vicechancellor@ubc.ca

Professor Deborah BuszardDeputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal

10 September, 2019

Doug Gilchrist, City Manager

Subject: Proposed City of Kelowna Parklands DCC Charges

The University of British Columbia is grateful to have an opportunity to comment on the City of Kelowna's proposed Park Development program. I understand that a forthcoming report to Council from City staff will recommend that Parks Development Cost Charges not be applied to institutions such as universities with respect to the proposed Parks Development Program. We strongly support this recommendation.

We recognize the importance and support the provision of parks for their considerable community benefits, including facilitating active living, physical and mental health and well-being, inclusivity, community connections, socializing, and learning, as well as for the protection of, and connection with, natural spaces. We applaud the City's commitment to creating new and enhanced park amenities, benefitting generations to come. Parks, just like health and education facilities and services, are foundations of a healthy city. Likewise, publicly-funded universities, colleges, and hospitals also provide community-serving 'public amenities' devoted to mental and physical health, active lifestyles, learning, social equity and community connections.

In light of these similarities and a shared commitment to community wellness, and with respect for Council's authority on this matter, we summarize our position as follows:

- 1. Universities, colleges and health authorities are publicly-funded, not-for-profit institutions and, as such, have no capability to take on additional direct development charges against the educational, health and community-serving facilities they develop, without a reduction in the community benefits they provide.
- 2. Public institutions like UBC, Okanagan College and Interior Health, provide significant facilities, programs and services related to health, learning, active lifestyles that benefit community health, complementing the benefits of municipal parks. For UBC Okanagan, this includes direct recreational benefits such as playing fields and gymnasiums; hosting varsity and community events; fitness facilities; health and exercise classes, training and practicums; as well as stewardship of natural areas and provision of publicly accessible trails.
- 3. In our view, some examples of stable, fair, and equitable funding sources available to the City for parks acquisition and improvement include, for example: 5% Parkland Dedication, Community Amenity Contributions (CACs), Development Cost Charges on 'for-profit' developments, a Tourism Tax and other park development partnerships.

The university is committed to building a healthy community and supporting well-being and socioeconomic development. We look forward to exploring future partnership opportunities to enhance the existing recreational and health-promoting programs and services offered by UBC's campus for the benefit of the entire community.

Sincerely,

Deborah Buszard,

Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Principal

The University of British Columbia, Okanagan Campus

Copies:

Derek Edstrom, Director of Strategic Investments, City of Kelowna Robert Parlane, Manager, Parks & Buildings Planning, City of Kelowna Melanie Steppuhn, Parks Planner, City of Kelowna

Michael White, AVP Campus and Community Planning, UBC Rob Einarson, AVP Finance and Operations, UBC Okanagan campus David Waldron, Director of Campus Planning and Development, UBC Okanagan campus



Attachment 3:

Letters from Community Associations

Mr. Robert Parlane
Manager, Parks & Building Planning
City of Kelowna

Dear Mr. Parlane and City of Kelowna Council,

Thank you for your presentation regarding Parks Development Funding for new parks in Kelowna.

As residents of Lost Creek in Wilden and committee members for the Lost Creek Park, we appreciate the information you provided and are excited about the possible changes to park policy development going forward.

Since 2014, a group of residents in the Lost Creek area of Wilden formed a committee and have been advocating for a park on the land that was designated for a park in the early 2000s. Since the City did not have a policy for park development, the residents of Lost Creek sought out various ways to develop Lost Creek Park. We first identified the interest groups being the City, Blenk Developments and the residents of Lost Creek. Over the course of 4 years, we explored the options about who would fund the development. We entertained the ideas of Local Area Service agreement, property taxes, fundraising, developer paying 100%, City paying 100% or residents paying 100%. None of these options were feasible by all interest groups. Finally, in 2017, the interest groups agreed upon a 50/50 partnership with the City funding 50% of the park development and a collaboration of the developer and residents funding the remaining 50%. This was a very difficult and exhausting process. The Lost Creek Park committee felt the City should have had a policy in place for park development, so no other area has to undergo the same frustrating exercise.

Going through the proposal to get to the 50/50 agreement created some animosity and differences of opinions about park development amongst the community of Lost Creek, as well as between the residents and the City and Blenk Developments. The Lost Creek Park Committee requested that the City begin to develop a policy for future park developments as there are many other undeveloped parks that have been at a stale mate for many years. We are excited that the City has undergone rigorous research to recommend that park development be added to the DCC. We are in full support of the proposed park development policy. We believe it is the best way to move the City of Kelowna forward in community development, growth and unity.

After Lost Creek Park was developed, there has been a greater sense of community not only amongst the residents within a 1-kilometer radius of the Park, but also within the greater Wilden and surounding area. The benefits of creating a park space greatly exceed any financial cost. Please vote for the proposed Park Development policy.

Thank you,

The Lost Creek Park Committee



August 19, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Parks development funding strategy, File 1840-01

The Okanagan Xeriscape Association (OXA) fully supports a parks development funding strategy that will increase the density of park space in Kelowna. As noted in the report to council, having access to animated park space is a key component of healthy active living and building strong vibrant communities.

The OXA is an educational leader for sustainable, xeric landscapes and would like to provide input on how new park spaces can be developed so they require less maintenance and less water. Planning that keeps these two factors in the forefront will save the City money over the long term and demonstrate a commitment to implementing solutions for the environmental challenges of living in a semi-arid region.

Turf grass is the most water-intensive component of the landscape and must be used wisely in places where it is best suited. Unfortunately, it is commonly used as a default landscape component, in part due to its initial low cost to install. However, when weekly maintenance and water costs are calculated, the long-term costs are significantly more than alternative landscape components such as:

- mixed shrub beds and ornamental grass beds (e.g. Stuart Park)
- native naturalized areas (e.g. Rotary Marshes)

Another viable alternative to turf areas are landscape components that promote active living and community building. Examples that mostly require no water and minimal maintenance are:

- tennis/pickleball/basketball courts
- picnic table areas in shade with wood chip mulch underneath
- natural playgrounds e.g. hopping boulders and logs
- community gardens
- life-sized checker and chess boards
- bike racks

Careful planning and design that factors in the long-term maintenance costs of each element in a park will ensure that overall maintenance costs are minimized, less water is used, and residents get the best use of the park. For example:

- trees and shrubs need to be spaced to allow them to grow to mature size without the need for constant pruning (due to impinging on walkways or other trees and shrubs)
- location of trees needs to be carefully considered to allow for shade from summer heat e.g.in children's playgrounds, dog parks, and seating areas
- use of a mass-planted, large perennial flower bed with long-blooming plants has more impact and needs much less maintenance than many narrow strips of flower beds
- grouping plants by water needs improves plant health as well as reducing water use
- (as mentioned above) avoiding excessive use of turf grass by incorporating other elements
- including input from user groups to ensure park elements will receive maximum use e.g. the surface for dog park areas

The new Rowcliffe Park is one example of a newly developed park that is a great addition to the neighborhood and already a very much enjoyed space. However, by incorporating some of the above suggestions, both long-term maintenance costs and water use would have been reduced. In addition, usability could have been increased.

Allocating more funding to parks development is a necessity for building an attractive city. In conjunction with that, now is the time for the City to embrace landscapes that are fiscally sound and make sense for the climate we live in. Developing parks in a manner that reduces maintenance costs and water usage is the kind of forward-thinking strategy needed.

The OXA is keen to draw upon its expertise in well-founded xeric principles to provide input to City staff, in a collaborative manner, in the development of new parks. The City has a tremendous opportunity to lead by example to promote a new cultural norm of landscape water conservation while at the same time being fiscally responsible and providing space that residents enjoy. The OXA hopes to be a part of that exciting future.

Musici

Sincerely,

Gwen Steele and Lisa Masini

Co-founders of the Okanagan Xeriscape Association



Attachment 3:

Letters from Sports Organizations

DATE: September 4, 2019 **TO:** Mayor and Council

FROM: Doug Manning, President, Central Okanagan Rugby Enthusiasts

RE: Sportsfields in Kelowna

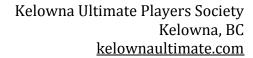
The local rugby community is very interested in the development of more sportsfields in Kelowna. As a matter of context, Our CORE non-profit society serves more than 1000 touch rugby players, 750 of them under the age of 12. We also provide a development pathway for hundreds of contact rugby players, ages 13 and older, distribute financial support to graduating rugby players and talented athletes unable to afford top-level competitions, and host provincial and national rugby games and events in the Central Okanagan.

Our mini-rugby and touch rugby programs need four contiguous fields on Sunday mornings - this is not possible with today's field inventory and usage. That same program is confined to a 7-week season that is chopped up throughout the spring - there are just not enough fields available. Our co-ed summer touch rugby league is confined to an 8-week season and only 16 teams, as there are not enough field hours to allow us to expand. Even though our academies and adult teams play in the November to March window, no fields are available due to present-day policies and out-dated turf alternatives.

Rugby does not have a home in this community. Many other BC communities have contributed to rugby-only facilities that provide a place for the sport to grow and develop. Rugby would appreciate a facility that allowed us to host provincial and national events while improving the quantity and quality of local players. More and better quality turf fields would be appreciated for our academies and adult teams. More and better indoor field facilities that are more reasonably priced would be appreciated as well.

10 years ago, a handful of old guys played touch rugby in the Central Okanagan. Today, it is considered by parents to be "the best youth sports deal in town", enabling kids 4 - 12 to get hours of active living every week. We all know the importance of fundamental movement skills development for youth. Rugby is pleased to be in the mix of multi-sports available in our city to enable youth to become well-rounded athletes. An investment in sport field development is an investment in the long-term health of our community. We stand fully behind any initiative that gives us more places to play and grow.

I would be pleased to meet with Council to discuss further.





September 5, 2019

City of Kelowna 1435 Water Street Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4

Attn: Mayor and Council

Subject: Support for prioritization of parks investment and sports field development

Kelowna Ultimate Players Society has been organizing and promoting Ultimate Frisbee in Kelowna since 2003. Initially the league began with 75 members playing one night a week.

Now we have over 250 adult members participating in at least one of the five leagues we offer through all the season of the year. Our members are generally 25-35 years old, and comprised of both women and men, as all of our leagues are co-ed.

As a growing sports league, and for the reasons outlined below, Kelowna Ultimate Players Society ("KUPS") supports the prioritization of parks investment and sports field development by the City of Kelowna Council.

One unique trait of Ultimate Frisbee is that the sport is self-officiated at all levels of play including world championships. The first rule that is introduced to new players is called "Spirit of the Game," and this rule emphasizes respect for your opponent, for the game and for yourself. This rule results in more comradery between teammates and opponents. To facilitate this community feeling among our members, KUPS would like to have all of our games at a single location such as Parkinson or Mission Sports Fields. This goal of bringing all our members together once a week to play and build community has not been possible, due to lack of field space at a single location.

At our current size, we require four soccer fields to run a league night with all of our teams playing. We find it difficult to add new league opportunities due to lack of availability of fields. This fall we requested for lit fields during the week from 6-8 pm, and there was no availability anywhere in the city. We expanded our request to the 8-10 pm time slot and one field was available.

Every year we juggle fields to be able to facilitate our spring and summer leagues. Some years when there are not enough fields available with the City of Kelowna, we have rented fields from School District 23 at KLO middle school and OKM high school. This year we played at Walrod field in the north end, and this field does not meet the standard of playing

fields that we have come to expect from the City of Kelowna fields, with uneven ground, sparse grass and gravel spots in the field.

A recent success for KUPS has come in partnership with School District 23. In 2018, a high school league began with four teams, and in 2019, this expanded to include eight teams and over 150 players from schools in West Kelowna and Kelowna. This success in introducing students to a sport that promotes life-long activity and conflict resolution skills, through self-officiating, is exciting for KUPS as we expect a large increase in new players looking for an opportunity to play in our leagues. With the prospect of 50-75 new players graduating from high school league to adult leagues each year, KUPS will require one additional soccer field to facilitate 40-50 new players.

In addition to our leagues, we have hosted a local tournament in May every year since 2006. This year the tournament bought 47 teams and over 850 athletes to Kelowna. This event is held at the Mission Sports Fields over three days and is currently the largest Ultimate Frisbee tournament in Western Canada. This year we had 12 teams on our wait list, wanting to enter, but field space limited our capacity to 48 teams. Increased field space at Mission Sports Field could make this the largest Ultimate Frisbee tournament in Canada.

All of the recreation opportunities in Kelowna offered by the City of Kelowna, local community groups and local businesses help build community and offer healthy lifestyle choices for the residents and visitors of Kelowna.

Kelowna Ultimate Players Society supports the prioritization of parks investment and sports field development by the City of Kelowna Council.

Sincerely,

Kelowna Ultimate Players Society

Per: James Chester, League Coordinator, Kelowna Ultimate Players Society

September 5th, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing this letter in support of the Sport Kelowna office and on behalf of our sport organization. The Okanagan College Coyotes baseball program is entering its 12th year of existence and has continually grown each year. Our program will provide an opportunity for 54 players to participate in college baseball and pursue academic goals in 2019-2020.

Our program works diligently to develop young men into community leaders. Working through a demanding academic schedule, on field schedule, and off season schedule challenges our players on many levels. We are proud of our programs track record of graduating players with a variety of degrees and trade certifications that now call Kelowna their permanent home. Players come from coast to coast to be a part of program and more and more are staying after completion of their academics.

The Coyotes program does not encompass just our college athletes. Our Junior Coyote initiative provides programs over the course of the calendar year to a significant amount of youth players. We work to provide grassroots players an opportunity to be coached by not only college coaches but college players as well. It serves as a mentor setting to have our youth players aspire to attend Okanagan College and pursue their education. We saw over 500 different youth players in the Okanagan Valley in 2019.

We face many problems with our program. Our facility that we use on a regular basis, Elks Stadium, is aging out and in need of a major upgrade. With program growth from youth to college, the indoor batting cage at Elks Stadium is obsolete and need of replacement and expansion immediately. We are having to turn away youth players during the winter months due to available hours.

Having a secondary artificial surface would dramatically change our program with extension of on field time, decrease our indoor needs, and significantly change our travel budget and schedule with the availability to play in Kelowna earlier and later into the fall. The secondary field would also allow us to attract large regional, national and international tournaments. It would also provide opportunity to create recreational leagues.

Participating in an active lifestyle from a young age through to college to an adult is crucial to the health and well being of our community. It develops the love for being active, competing, working with teammates, creating a social setting to develop new relationships and help develop a sense of community into the later years of life.

Facility development has not kept pace with our population growth, specifically with baseball. Investing in our community facilities and maintaining them to a high standard is crucial to all sport programs success. This will create more opportunity for our youth and will carry thru into participation for adults.

Our program looks to provide the best possibly college baseball experience in Canada. Our facilities hold us back. Of a recent study of college baseball athletes in our conference provided by our conference, facilities, education and city are a major factor on what program prospective players ultimately choose.

We want to change that, we want to help.

Regards,

Geoff White

Head Baseball Coach

Okanagan College

Dear Mayor & Council,

Thank you for taking the time to consider the needs of the Okanagan Sun as well as the larger football community, as it pertains to field/facility development. On behalf of the football community I would like to throw our support behind the new funding strategy for parks development that includes a Development Cost Charge (DCC).

Currently our organization, society, support staff, coaches and players consist of approximately 150 people as well as the roughly 9,000-10,000 fans that attend the games each year. Of these fans we generally see a larger demographic of younger fans as well as a number of seniors at our games and even some of our practices. As far as our facility is concerned, we currently are significantly challenged in the following areas, lack of meeting and film rooms to house our 80+ players and coaches, severe lack of amenities for the visiting team (change rooms and showers that stay hot). Undersized media center when there is television coverage, a concession stand that is way too small forcing us to use food trucks as well as other alternatives. An inadequate ticket booth at the main gate and non-existent one at the rear gate. A safety concern we also face when our support staff leave the facility in the evening there is no lighting whatsoever in the parking lot, creating a very unsafe environment.

Regarding the Apple Bowl, I have discussed these needs with a number of other user groups and these only represent the upgrades from the Okanagan Sun perspective, I'm sure we would all love to see the big metal storage containers a thing of the past.

I believe that having a functioning and enviable premier facility within the city does encourage athletes at all levels to stay involved in sport and excel with an opportunity to showcase their skills on the Apple Bowl field. As a young football player growing up in the minor system in Kelowna I dreamt of playing in the Apple Bowl one day, and as an adult soccer player if our championship game was at the facility I guarantee the excitement would return as it did all those years ago.

I would love to discuss this further if anyone wishes to get more information. I grew up on the fields of Kelowna, and wish to see the athlete today of all ages thrive as I was so fortunate to do.

Sincerely,

Jay Christensen
City Liaison – Okanagan Sun (Okanagan Mainline Football Society)





September 5, 2019



To City of Kelowna Mayor and Council,

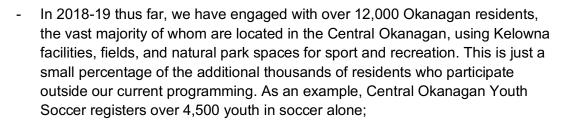


On behalf of PacificSport Okanagan, I am writing this letter of support for the City of Kelowna Parks and Planning department to explore strategies to maintain and improve our current sport and recreation spaces.



To assist in a greater understanding of the position we are in as a regional sport centre, I would like to communicate some of the following statistics and background facts regarding the scope of our practice in Kelowna:







 We liaise with over 65 sport organization partners on an annual basis, providing sport camps, coach training, athlete testing, event support and physical literacy initiatives in schools;



More than ever, we are taxed with finding adequate space in our fields, facilities and parks in order to conduct high quality sport and recreation programs. This is increasingly challenging, as the population in Kelowna grows, and we work hard to engage with everyone from young families to seniors in a healthy active lifestyle;



Sport and recreation is one of the most powerful social connectors in any community. A poll from the Candian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) in 2018 found that 91% of Canadians think that community-level sport can contribute to good health and 84% think it can instill character in youth to a large extent. And yet, only 25% of Canadians found their expectations for community sport were being met. We understand that Kelowna residents feel the same, after preliminary research into building a Community Sport Plan in 2018-19.



Facilities and space to conduct the important work we do in our sport and recreation sector is foundational to our success. We encourage the City of Kelowna to explore creative ways to continue to meet the needs of our growing community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you have any questions or require more information.

Sincerely,

Shaunna Taylor

Sha Sh

Executive Director, PacificSport Okanagan 250-469-8854

City of Kelowna

Date: September 5th, 2019

To: Mayor Basran, and Kelowna City Council

From: Pickleball Kelowna Club

Subject: Support of the proposed Funding for Park Development

The City of Kelowna Parks and Planning Department is proposing a new funding strategy for parks development that includes a Development Cost Charge (DCC) approach. The sports organization, Pickleball Kelowna, fully supports this plan.

Pickleball Kelowna is a local non-profit group that runs Pickleball programs and tournaments at the Parkinson Recreation Center Pickleball courts. These include Canadian Nationals for 4 years with over 400 athletes, and this years 55+ BC games with over 350 participants. The club operates from May 1st until September 30st, every year. These courts are also public Pickleball courts for a majority of the time. Our club currently has 515 players registered. The club has athletes of all ages, as well as skill levels. The 12 pickleball courts at the Parkinson rec center are very busy, both with club play and public play. We can accommodate 48 players at one time; this capacity is exceeded on a daily basis. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in North America. It is an inclusive community sport, with increased opportunities for social connections, physical activity and intergenerational play. We have very quickly outgrown our current facility. A larger facility would allow us to accommodate more members and continue to bring sport tourism dollars to the city of Kelowna.

Pickleball Kelowna is very appreciative that the Parks Department has supported our sport. Our 12-court facility was the first outdoor dedicated Pickleball facility of its kind in Canada when it was built. These Pickleball courts are aging quickly; they were originally built on old asphalt tennis courts that were created in the 70's. The courts have been resurfaced many times and will have to be replaced soon. The club is of the understanding that the courts will have to be relocated, if and when, the Parkinson rec center is renovated or rebuilt. The club would also like to explore a partnership with the city to provide year round Pickleball at the new location.

As mayor and council, you have the unenviable task of approving the yearly budget and you well know that there are so many costs to running a city. There is continuous pressure to keep budget increases to a minimum, yet provide the infrastructure and services that make Kelowna a city that the citizens can be proud of calling home. Sport builds community. It gets people of all ages off their couches and out of their houses. They meet their neighbors, and make new friends. When you are participating in sports you are building a "true" social network, not a virtual one. Staying active at all ages keeps you healthy, both physically and mentally. As we age (which we are all doing), sport keeps us young and makes for a

vibrant community. Our city planners and parks department have made it a priority to develop facilities that we all can enjoy. This makes Kelowna a place where people want to live, retire to and visit. Kelowna planners are trying to reduce urban sprawl, in the near future we will have a larger population living in closer quarters. This will put increased pressure on public parks and recreation facilities.

City Council and Mayors make decisions that influence cities in perpetuity. My wish is that this council makes the decision to make parks and recreation part of its legacy. We will all be a healthier and happier community, which makes Kelowna a great city to live in.

Laura Schwarz

Pickleball Kelowna Facilities Advocate

Dale Charlton

President of Pickleball Kelowna

Kelowna August 31, 2019

Dear Mayor Basran and Council,

Tennis BC is committed to the coordination of efforts to strengthen sport development, and as the regional director Tennis BC for the Okanagan new courts would provide invaluable benefits to the residents of Kelowna and the surrounding area. As demand grows for programs that incorporate and embrace the principles of Long Term Athlete Development and local municipalities and school districts put ever more emphasis on the importance of physical literacy it becomes increasingly vital for our sport to have a 'home ' in the community.

As seen across Canada, and driven by the success of our athletes on the world stage, tennis in Kelowna is experiencing huge growth in participation, with programs now available for players from age 3, in the very popular Le Petit Tennis, right through all stages of youth development and on to a thriving adult men's and women's league. More courts would provide play opportunities for every demographic in the community, as affordable, accessible programs are a priority for the Okanagan Tennis Association.

Tennis players of all ages from Kelowna represent our sport at the local, provincial, national and international level, with several players from the region travelling to represent BC at Junior Nationals and Canada at the World Seniors Games.

Tennis BC welcomes the opportunity to promote and provide an organized form of our sport at the community level, fulfil the demand for more courts, and in particular a covered facility for year round play.

Together as community partners we are continuing to promote tennis as a sport for life for all British Columbians.

Yours sincerely,

Joachim Nierfeld

Urban Rec Okanagan is writing this letter to highlight the importance of parks investment and sports-field development in our community. We have been operating in this community for 14 years and have seen very few developments to allow for the recreational community room to grow alongside the population. The demands on our allocated resources is vast and unmatched unfortunately.

As an organization we serve a wide demographic of participants. As a coed organization we are fortunate to have 52% male/48% female participants. Their ages range widely from 19 years to no limit but see our highest demand from the 25 to 38 years of age range.

The demand increases annually as new developments are built and housing prices fluctuate to benefit the buyer or seller. There has been no lull in the demand to create consistent recreational sport league offerings to the tax payers of Kelowna. The biggest challenge we face is turning away participants due to our space crisis. Our beach courts are at capacity for over 20 weeks of the year, we are consistently requesting more sport field space but we are not alone. All the organizations in town are feeling the pressure. With few lit fields in town the youth programming has some access until dark but this leaves the more mature groups with little to no options.

Our recreational 2-pitch slo-pitch leagues have garnered huge demand but there are just not enough baseball diamonds for the demand of the baseball enthusiast nor those wanting to try the sport for the first time.

We closely follow the Canadian Sport for Life model and promote an Active for Life approach with our coed recreational offering that is the most diverse and largest offering between Vancouver and Calgary. Our leagues have proven to bring new residents of Kelowna into a community that allows them to grow their network and create relationships that enhance their experience while offering them more opportunities to grow and remain in Kelowna as a place they want to call home.

We truly believe that investing in parks and sport-field development is investing in the future of Kelowna. This investment is one that is multi-faceted in its results that not only includes a healthy population of parents that mirror their behaviour to their children but also demonstrates an awareness of the importance physical movement has on our community's health and well-being.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Jamie Taverner Managing Partner Urban Rec Okanagan



Attachment 3:

Letters from Individuals

From: <u>Terry Bridges</u>
To: <u>Melanie Steppuhn</u>
Subject: Kelowna Parks Plan

Date: Friday, August 02, 2019 8:00:57 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. There's less area of parks per person, each year in Kelowna. I want to reverse that trend.

Terry Bridges

Kelowna

 From:
 Theresa D

 To:
 Melanie Steppuhn

Subject: Parks

Date: Friday, August 02, 2019 7:05:13 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

MSteppuhn@kelowna.ca

I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. There's less area of parks per person, each year in Kelowna. I want to reverse that trend. NOW.

Thank you. Theresa Dunnigan

Attention: Ms. Melanie Steppuhn, BES, BCLA

Parks & Landscape Planner, City of Kelowna (Via email)

Re: Proposed Park Development Funding Program

Dear Ms. Steppuhn.

I am writing this letter of support for the consideration by Council to identify new sources of funding for the development of park spaces in our City.

As a Fellow in the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, a registered Landscape Architect in the Province of British Colombia, a professional Landscape Architect practitioner for over 35 years and a long term resident of the City I have travelled the Country working on many significant place making projects that have ultimately contributed to the overall well-being of the communities I have worked in. We are all aware of the core benefits that our park spaces provide in the health, resiliency and economic vitality of our City. These benefits are well researched and scholarly documented.

Kelowna itself has made significant strides in the preservation of key properties for public access and the long term enjoyment of its residents but is falling behind in the building of new park spaces (or updating old tired park spaces to current standards) in comparison to the rate of new growth within the City. The realization that parks are a significant element in the building of a smart, healthy and resilient City must move us all to act purposefully to ensure we allocate appropriate financial resources to the planning and construction of our community parks. Our park spaces are vital to ensure as we intensify our downtown, urban centres and neighbourhoods that we are also ensuring the healthy livability of this new growth with the provision of suitable park spaces.

Recognizing that Council has the critically important responsibility of balancing the multiple needs of the City, I will not suggest that I have the appropriate background to suggest the most balanced way to move forward with allocating sufficient resources, but know that the status quo is not good enough. I trust that Council will once again exhibit bold leadership and rise above special interest group pressures to choose the most sustainable go forward plan that will keep moving Kelowna towards the goal of being the most livable mid-size City in Canada.

Kind regards,

Robert Evans. FCSLA, MCIP, MBCSLA, MPIBC, Dip.UD, BLARCH.

From: Sandra Hordowick
To: Melanie Steppuhn

Subject: Parks Development Funding
Date: Parks Development Funding
Friday, August 02, 2019 6:40:18 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. There's less area of parks per person, each year in Kelowna. I want to reverse that trend.

Sandy Hordowick

 From:
 Alfons Janusas

 To:
 Robert Parlane

 Cc:
 Melanie Steppuhn

Subject: Parks development funding strategy

Date: Parks development funding strategy

Friday, August 02, 2019 12:49:45 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern;

PLANKelowna strongly supports full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy.

Hundreds of Kelowna residents have shared their dismay with us regarding the large backlog of unbuilt parks. The city is encouraging accelerated population growth in Kelowna. There has not been a corresponding increase in infrastructure (including parks) to service those additional residents. Full implementation of the Strategy, as soon as possible, will help to ensure Kelowna remains a desirable place to live.

Sincerely, Al Janusas PLANKelowna

Robert.

I would appreciate a chance to get together and talk about some of the issues surrounding the future Parks operation.

I am director with (but not necessarily representing) the Friends of Mission Creek, the Central Okanagan Land Trust, Central Okanagan Heritage Society and the Mission Creek Restoration Initiative. All of these groups have contributed to the Park assets of the City of Kelowna.

Regarding the current proposal of increasing the DCC charges. I am very much in favour of the development community paying more of their share. I would also like to see more discussion with the development community as there have been in the past, been creative alternatives to an 'across the board policy'. An example is the allowance for density bonusing. If the developer is willing to provide an increased 'green space or park'. In the preparation of the SW Mission Sector Plan in the mid 90's, the developer (Kettle Valley) set aside a large portion of land into park for the trade to upgrade density from a straight single family, large lot development. This park also functions as a water retention 'bowl' in the event of a historic runoff occurrence.

The development community, although profit driven, is generally receptive to the creation of parks and Green Spaces as it makes their product more attractive. A good example of this is the development on the parcel between Gordon, Lequime Lakeshore and the Lexington development. There is a large linear buffer and pond network in the development that benefitted the existing development to the north and greatly enhanced the quality of the development on the table. (This was also a situation where the development included an increased density based on a benefit to the existing residents and the developers.)

The main concern that I have with the current proposal is that it does not involve what I believe needs to be a component of the future of Park Planning. This is the aspect of partnering with other groups to accomplish the goals of the City of Kelowna Parks Plan. I will give a few examples that I have personally been involve in.

- The first situation was the creation of the Mission Creek Greenway. Between the beginning of the project in the mid 1990's and present, the 'Friends' raised approximately \$2 500 000 and secured a 16 km linear park. We continue to work with the City through the RDCO.
- During this process the Central Okanagan Land Trust was able to secure a donation of property on the Greenway and a covenant to the another property. We also donated \$10 000 to phase 1. Beginning in the early 2000's, the Trust received the first portion of the donation 800 acres from the John's family to create the John's Family Conservancy in the upper Mission. This came with a donation to maintain the Park. In the past few years the COLT has secured over \$300 000 for the Mission Creek Restoration Initiative and approximately \$60 000 for the Munson Pond Park.
- I am also the President of the Central Okanagan Heritage Society. Our first Project was the Benvoulin Church and Gardens beginning in 1982. We restored the site and

maintain the park (approximately 2.5 acres) at no cost to the city. The site is a popular destination. The biggest project COHS undertook was the restoration of the Guisachan site. We took on the restoration of Guisachan House and restored and maintained the gardens up to approximately 2015. During this relationship it is estimated that the COHS secured well over \$500 000 in grants, donations and 'in kind work'. We moved, restored, and continue to maintain the McDougal House in Guisachan Park in proper heritage condition through an agreement with the city.

These are but a few examples of how the groups that I personally have have been part of, have been a benefit to the to the City of Kelowna Park's assets development. I believe that there exists, a major potential for the city to partner with different groups to attain their common goals.

I would welcome a chance to talk about the issues with you.

Don Knox

 From:
 Peter Kuehn

 To:
 Melanie Steppuhn

 Cc:
 Tara Godwin

 Subject:
 Parks matter to me!

Date: Wednesday, September 04, 2019 12:04:48 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

"The program is designed that development growth will pay for park growth (at a rate that follows development), without additional pressure on general taxation."

The above is taken from a circular I received by E-mal as a resident of Clifton Road N. in Kelowna from our Association.

Every week I bless the foresight of previous Councils, for making sure we have a Park off Clifton Road. Compensating the previous Owner with a higher density zoning in exchange for the land he owned, now Blair Park, has done no harm to anyone. Another great example has to be Dilworth Mountain Park, which now is almost fully developed with beautiful Homes. The Park is a Jewel which my little Yorke and I visit all year round, several times each week. It is what every neighborhood shout have, and as a past Developer having given up much land for Park space, I can only say that this is an absolute necessity.

As a former Approvals Agent working with the City of Kelowna once stated to me; Developers must calculate the cost of donating the land, and providing certain amenities for the Neighborhoods in which they develop, in line with the size of the Development. If not enough Land is available, then a financial levy to develop Parks in other areas must be made. It should really be more, but we are getting too much opposition.

I agreed with him at that time, and even more so now.

Every time I spent an hour or so in the Parks, I see Adults and Children enjoying a bit of nature in peace and quiet. It is not only an essential in today's busy and louder world for Seniors like myself, but also for Children, their Parents and Animals to have a bit of Nature close to home.

As high-rises are popping up everywhere, it is an example of foresight by previous Councils to now have the extensive landscaped areas on the Waterfront, and the Estuary developed on the initiative and under the supervision of the Kelowna Rotary Club members. Kudos to them all!

Developers are pushing for ever higher density developments, permission which must

be given by City Council. This City Council should be following the lead of previous Councils and make sure, that we have neighborhood parks with easy access to every Citizens in every area where people need access to a quiet area in their particular neighborhood.

Previous developers, Individuals with a feeling of responsibility and love for their City, Service Clubs, have all worked hard to make Kelowna what it is today. Families like the Simpsons, (Stanley Simpson) the Knox Family, Jack & Jim Treadgold, Ernie Winters, and many other prominent Business Owners of Kelowna in the 1900's. They all were an active part in laying the foundation for Kelowna financial wellbeing. Great political leaders, like the Bennett family, did not only do good by British Columbia, but always by Kelowna and the Okanagan as well.

My praise goes to those in City-hall as well as all Kelownarites who raise their voices in support of the above referred to initiative.

Generations to come will talk in praise about the foresight shown by us all, at this crucial time, with major growth in progress and more for decades to come. Why should they not contribute to the degree they benefit from what was done and paid for by others, making it easier and faster to make millions now and in the future ?!

A Citizen of Kelowna since 1957

H.P.Kuehn

Kelowna BC.

From:

To: Melanie Steppuhn

Cc: Subject:

Parks - engagement opportunity

Date: Friday, September 06, 2019 3:45:49 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

Dear Melanie,

Thank you for the opportunity for community engagement with the discussion of future parks in Kelowna. I did read the report and sadly did not understand much of it, but your short note made mention of moneys available for park development to increase significantly from developers.

We absolutely support future development subsidizing parks to a greater extent. Kelowna is sorely lacking green space that can be utilized for recreational activities. Allowing developments to give steep hillsides as the "green space" for their developments, although extremely important to the maintenance of our planet, does not satisfy the needs of people to spend some time out of their walls.

For some reason if a green space is put aside for a development, it has benches, a tennis court for adults and a baby play station. It is rare to see anything for the 8-18 year olds to do. Why is there not a basket ball court in every development?

Thanks again, Maureen Lisle Lloyd Irwin Kelowna From:

To: Melanie Steppuhn

Subject: Parks Development Funding Strategy
Date: Tuesday, August 06, 2019 10:30:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. Each year in Kelowna there's less park area per person. I want to reverse that trend.

Parks and other public spaces are essential for building healthy and vibrant communities that are people-focused.

Please make Kelowna a joyful city to live in.

From a student who is looking for a home city after university,

Alex Spice

From: Ivy Thomas
To: Melanie Steppuhn
Subject: Parks proposal

Date: Sunday, August 04, 2019 4:19:53 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I have recently moved to Kelowna and love the beauty of this city. During the Fall-Spring it is great for hiking and finding quiet places with beautiful views. However, when summer arrives and the warm weather, the few lake side parks available be one overcrowded both in the beach and in the parking lots. Since Kelowna promotes itself through the beauty and enjoyment of this lake we have been blessed to use, I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. Each year in Kelowna there's less park area per person. I want to reverse that trend.

Respectfully, Ivy Thomas

Kelowna

--

We may not live holy lives, but we live in a world alive with holy moments. ~ K Nerburn

From: <u>Darrell Uhearn</u>
To: <u>Melanie Steppuhn</u>
Subject: Kelowna Parks creation

Date: Sunday, August 04, 2019 9:23:59 AM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I strongly support full implementation of the Parks Development Funding Strategy, as soon as possible. Each year in Kelowna there's less park area per person. I want to reverse that trend.

--

Cheers

D Uhearn

From: Colin Wilson
To: Melanie Steppuhn

Subject: DCC"s for park development

Date: Monday, September 09, 2019 9:17:40 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of Kelowna. Do not click links or open attachments unless you have verified with the sender that the content is safe.

I just wanted to send you a quick note. I have lived in Kelowna for 29 years, raised 4 kids here, and plan to continue to call Kelowna home for a long time. Kelowna is lacking in parks. I understand we have the capital to purchase the land but cannot develop the parks because of a lack of funds. Please have the courage to raise DCC's for park development.

Our developers in the city will not want this, yet they will gladly charge a premium for condos they build that have lake views, or are close to the lake, or to a park. In other words, the want their cake and want to eat it too. Please raise DCC's for parks. It is unbelievably embarrassing that our lakeshore belongs to the rich, whether they be individuals or developers. We all should have access to this jewel, not just those with deep pockets. Do the right thing.

Colin Wilson