

**Present:**

Councillor Guerra – Chairperson  
Councillor Elford  
Councillor Locke  
B. Burnside  
S. Drysdale  
C. Girardi

**Absent:**

G. Tymoschuk, School Trustee

**Also Present:**

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
N. Aven, Manager of Parks  
L. Davison, Manager of Culture  
N. Higgs, Parks Operation Coordinator  
H. Norris, Park Facility Operations Manager  
L. White, Manager, Community and Recreation Services  
L. Anderson, Legislative Services

---

**A. ADOPTIONS OF MINUTES****1. Adoption of the Agenda**

It was Moved by S. Drysdale  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the Agenda of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee of September 22, 2021 be adopted.  
Carried

**2. Adoption of the Minutes**

It was Moved by S. Drysdale  
Seconded by C. Girardi  
That the minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee meeting held on June 23, 2021, be adopted.  
Carried

**B. DELEGATIONS****1. Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract + Reject Radio Roster (Skateboarding)**

Jacob Sawatzky, Vice President, Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract, Sebastian Moreno, Director of Reject Radio, Andy Anderson, Professional/Olympic Skateboarder and Kevin Harris, Canadian Skateboard Champion, were in attendance to provide a presentation with respect to South Surrey Athletic Park (Skatepark) updates and expansion.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided, highlighting the following:

- Riding skateboards, scooters and bikes has become an integral part of the lives of many youth, with research showing a multitude of benefits from skateboarding, including exercise, motivated learning, outdoor activities, culture, social connections, community inclusion and safe social settings for advancement.

- Currently it is illegal to skateboard in White Rock, even though skateboarding is now an Olympic sport and on an upwards trajectory of reaching many youth, resulting in an increased need to provide space to practice and no resources to harness skills.
- The South Surrey Skatepark is not only home to many old school founders of skateboarding, it's also where the younger generations show impressive talent at such a young age. Throughout the summer there were 45 youth on any day at the skatepark, and over 400 when there was a special event. More space is needed to avoid the possibility of running into one another.
- Furthermore, there has been a significant increase in female skateboarding, with a roughly 50/50 split of male and female skateboarders more recently. Over the past five years the sport has moved away from the stereotype of the early 90's to more of a skillful, artistic and dance form, making the sport more fun, resulting in greater participation all around and the need for more space.
- Similar to a tennis court that has cracks and bumps that needs repair to ensure the safety of those that use the courts, skateparks need attention and require resurfacing to ensure a safe environment for the sport.
- A recent petition to the City's Parks, Recreation & Culture Department, proposing the City consider the long-term benefits to an update and expansion of the infrastructure at the South Surrey Skatepark, has garnered 612 signatures to date.
- Suggested/required improvements include:
  - Installation of a "Slappy" curb – a beginner-friendly feature that is safer than the existing higher profile features and provides a curb that is low to the ground for riders to ride on and do a grind.
  - Expansion - the park is often congested, causing collisions between riders. An expansion of the park could accommodate more traffic, as well as provide some new features for beginners, a quarterpipe, more rails and ramps, a stair set with a rail, etc.
  - Crack repairs - the City has fixed most of the major cracks, but there are still significant ones that cause safety hazards.
  - Improved coping - "coping" is metal that covers the corners of features, making them easier to grind than rough concrete.
  - Smooth concrete - the old concrete aggregate rock is starting to show under the damaged pavement, making the surface rough which causes the small skateboard wheels to be unstable.
  - "Story wall" - a double sided sign at the park entrance that could also contain some history about how the park was built, as well as some of the influential riders of the park.
  - Garbage cans – a new garbage can closer to common gathering areas would be helpful to prevent littering.
  - Move a bench - the bench to the east of the bowl blocks a landing spot for the bowl and should be moved farther out of the way.
  - Winter riding – providing a waterproof canvas canopy over certain parts of the park would provide a covered area for riders to use during the winter.

- Painting - the paint at the park is chipping in several places, especially in the bowl.
- With proper funding the South Surrey Skatepark could become as locally renowned as it was when originally built and, with such an illustrious history, minor upgrades to the skatepark could offer the City of Surrey (South Surrey specifically) the opportunity to become a leader in the skateboard community, bringing more tourism, events, learning opportunities, programs and even sponsorship for local growing talent.
- To help achieve the suggested updates and expansion, the delegation is offering their volunteer support and various fundraising efforts to acquire some of the funding needed.

The Committee expressed their appreciation for the presentation, and the enthusiasm and determination demonstrated by the delegation.

It was

Moved by Councillor Elford

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee refer the information received to staff to provide a report back to the Committee outlining the repairs that have been done, the repairs that are needed immediately and the long-term planning for the South Surrey Skatepark and any other Surrey skateparks.

Carried

Discussion ensued with respect to having someone from the skateboarding community available to provide any further information/guidance as it relates to skatepark issues. Staff reported there has been an evolution in skateparks in Surrey over the years, and that they undergo a combination of consulting youth at skateparks and working with professional skatepark designers (e.g. Cloverdale and Chuck Bailey). Staff confirmed they will reach out to the delegation and any youth in the area for feedback in advance of any substantive changes to the skatepark.

## 2. **Pickleball Committee at 12882 and 12850 26 Ave.**

Alice Taylor, Pickleball Committee, representing tenants of Crescent Housing at 12882 and 12850 – 26 Avenue, was in attendance to present concerns with respect to the Crescent Park pickleball and tennis courts adjacent to the south property line of Crescent Housing.

To support the presentation, supplemental information from the delegation was provided to the Committee in advance of the meeting.

The following was highlighted:

- Concerns raised are not in opposition to pickleball courts, rather they are in opposition to certain pickleball courts that were built next to a Seniors housing residential building without any feasibility studies carried out prior. Pickleball needs to be played in appropriate locations. (By-law No. 70-44, Section B. General Regulations was referenced).

- There is ample evidence of problems with pickleball in residential areas, including a ban on pickleball in a Port Moody neighborhood last spring, and now happening all over Canada and the U.S.
- As noted in the supporting documents, the courts lie 60 feet from the building, home to 300 tenants primarily home during the day and evenings, where the noise blasts into the courtyard, down both sides and right over three stories to the North building.
- Absent of heavy rain or snow, there is a constant sound of "pop", "clack" up to 16 hours each day, along with yelling, grunts, groans and more "pop", "clack", creating significant mental stress from the noise created from the pickleball players. Noise that mountains of information compiled by many residents, with hundreds of hours of research over the past year, support such a claim.
- In June 2020, upward of 50 tenants had the opportunity to meet with City staff to deliver their numerous testimonies and sincere concerns. Two weeks later (on or about July 5<sup>th</sup>) the pickleball was stopped. Unfortunately, it was short lived due to a petition four days later by the pickleball players that saw the return of pickleball, beginning at 7:30 a.m., and carrying on throughout the day, often until 9 or 10 p.m. during the summer months.
- In closing, it is respectfully requested the City rectify the situation by taking the following steps:
  1. Stop all pickleball play at the subject location immediately and permanently;
  2. Remove all Pickleball lines from the Crescent Park tennis court surfaces; and
  3. Add pickleball to the list of prohibited activities to the "Tennis Only" signs, and "other use" signs - to include prohibiting competitions and/or tournaments.

The Committee expressed appreciation to the delegation for bringing the concerns forward, and in response to their questions, the following was noted:

- The tennis courts have been at that location for decades. In 2019, to prepare for a very large pickleball tournament the City had bid on and was going to be hosting, and in order to meet the requirement number needed in place for 2020, pickleball lines were added to the tennis courts. Tennis was only ever played prior to the installation of the pickleball lines, and there was never a noise issue raised.
- Initially 14 nets when installed, after which concerns were raised and the number of nets were brought down to 8.
- Some new and dedicated pickleball courts opened at the South Surrey Athletic Park within the last month, providing 12 dedicated courts to help meet the demand. However, there continues to be more than enough demand for those courts as well as at Crescent Park.
- Additional investment for the expansion of pickleball next year is under review in the Capital Budget going forward starting in 2022. If successful, it will alleviate the pressure for pickleball courts generally and provide for the court play at Crescent Park to be brought down to relocate elsewhere.

- A noise study at this location has not been conducted. Staff will undergo a noise study and report back to the Committee; evidence based results will help to expedite a resolution.
- Staff did look at noise buffering products to dampen the effects; essentially a cover put over the fence, but given the size of the courts, would result in a mini wall around all of the courts.
- There is a fairly costly product that can diminish most of the noise, but gives the sense of playing in a box. It would be more effective to phase out Crescent Park courts and relocate away from the residents as opposed to installing something like this.

It was

Moved by Councillor Guerra

Seconded by S. Drysdale

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee refer the information to staff to:

1. Look at the possibility of reducing the overall time allocated for pickleball play at Crescent Park, in an effort to mitigate the noise impact from pickleball play; and
2. Provide a report back to the Committee that sets out the 2022 Capital Budget for more pickleball courts, while returning the Crescent Park courts back to tennis only.

Carried

Comments continued:

- As pickleball is an ever-growing sport, it would be beneficial moving forward, to take into account the surrounding areas of any potential new courts before going ahead.
- As a new and rapidly expanding sport, staff are developing criteria in terms of acceptable locations for pickleball, taking into account the number of people in the area as well as the amount of parking that will be needed.

## C. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Rafael Villarreal, Manager Transportation, Engineering

Engineering staff, Rafael Villarreal, Manager Transportation, Douglas McLeod, Transportation Planning Manager, and Transportation Planners, Don Buchanan and Brian Haney, provided a presentation on the Surrey Transportation Plan.

A PowerPoint presentation, providing an overview of the long range vision, action plans for the next 10 years and the decision-making framework to prioritize investments, was given. The following was highlighted:

- Knowing that Surrey is growing 10,000 residents per year, a long-range vision plan for transportation is necessary. It is time for a new Transportation Plan.

- The use of transportation is changing. As Surrey has become a bigger city, it is important to prioritize key transportation investment over the next 10 years to support how people will move around.
- Beginning in the fall of 2020, Phase 2 public engagement was launched to understand the value for future transportation growth. Based on feedback received, Phase 3 engagement, including a public and CitySpeaks survey, random sample statistical survey, focus groups and interviews, took place in the summer of 2021, providing phenomenal feedback and an accurate picture of the transportation needs in Surrey.

A brief overview of the responses received to the "Big Vision" and "Bold Moves" of the Surrey Transportation Plan was provided. Very strong support was noted for:

- Building streets that prioritize safety over the movement of vehicles;
- 15-minute neighbourhoods, providing walk and bike networks for residents who live within an easy walk or roll to access daily needs such as grocery stores, daycare, schools, parks and transit; and
- Building a Rapid Transit Network that supports and connects all of Surrey's Town Centres. (Note: Prior to COVID-19, bus ridership in Surrey was growing faster than any other city in North America – up 50% in four years from 2015 to 2019.)

In summary, three key targets for 2050 were noted to be proposed for Council's endorsement:

- Safety: Zero Serious Injuries and Deaths
  - Vision Zero Surrey Safe Mobility Plan – ID a target Year
- Climate: Net Zero GHGs from Transportation
  - CCAS – ID sector target for transportation
- Mode Share: 50% mode share for walk/roll/transit trips
  - Metro 2050, T2050 and equity goals

Medium term targets for 2030 will be advanced in conjunction with the Draft Action Plans.

The Committee expressed their appreciation for the presentation, noting the great vision of the plan.

## 2. **Liane Davison, Manager of Culture**

Liane Davison, Manager of Culture, provided a brief Private Development Public Art update for the GEC development public art plan as follows:

- In their preliminary public art plan presented at the June Committee meeting, Douglas Coupland was the recommended artist for the GEC project. Over the summer, Mr. Coupland developed a series of concepts with the final public art plan proposing a monumental sculpture inspired by the colours and design of mid-century modern signs and the building previously on the site (Stardust Roller Rink). The proposed 30 ft. high sculpture was evaluated as meeting the expectations for significant iconic art for this City Centre location.

- The committee asked for assurance there will be a maintenance plan for the artwork, including the vibrant colour, which is anticipated to have a lifespan commensurate with the building.

#### D. OUTSTANDING BUSINESS

#### E. NEW BUSINESS

##### 1. **Cultural Grants Program Evaluation Panel – Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee Appointee**

File No. 1850-01

The Manager of Culture submitted a report to provide the Committee with information on the intake process for the 2021-2022 Cultural Grants program and appoint a representative from the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee to serve on the 2021-2022 Cultural Grants Evaluation Panel.

It was Moved by Councillor Guerra  
Seconded by Councillor Elford  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee:

1. Receive the report from the Manager of Culture, dated September 8, 2021, entitled "*Cultural Grants Program Evaluation Panel – Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee Appointee*", as information; and
2. Appoint Carol Girardi as the representative from the PRCC to serve on the Cultural Grants Evaluation Panel for a one-year appointment.

Carried

##### 2. **Surrey Art Gallery's Permanent Collection Acquisitions Committee – Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee Appointee**

File No. 0330-01

The Surrey Art Gallery Manager submitted a report to provide the Committee with background information regarding the Acquisitions Committee and to appoint a representative from the PRCC to serve on the Acquisitions Committee in 2021 for a one-year appointment.

It was Moved by Councillor Elford  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee:

1. Receive the report from the Surrey Art Gallery Manager, dated September 8, 2021, entitled "*Surrey Art Gallery's Permanent Collection Acquisitions Committee – Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee Appointee*", as information; and

2. Appoint Councillor Locke as the Council representative from PRCC to serve Surrey Art Gallery's Permanent Collection Acquisitions Committee ("Acquisitions Committee") in 2021 for a one-year appointment.

Carried

**3. Culture Days 2021, September 24 – October 24**

File No. 7800-01

The Manager of Culture submitted a report to provide information to the PRCC on the City's plans to celebrate Culture Days, beginning Friday, September 24 and continuing through until October 24, and to invite the PRCC to attend digital and live events and activities planned for Culture Days.

It was

Moved by S. Drysdale

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee receive the report from the Manager of Culture, dated September 16, 2021, entitled "*Culture Days 2021, September 24 – October 24*", as information.

Carried

**4. Sport Surrey Update - 2021**

File No. 6980-01

The Support Services & Accessibility Manager submitted a report to provide the Committee with an update on the Sport Surrey Program and related work.

It was

Moved by S. Drysdale

Seconded by B. Burnside

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee receive the report from the Support Services & Accessibility Manager, dated September 17, 2021, entitled "*Sport Surrey Update - 2021*", as information.

Carried

**F. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**G. CORRESPONDENCE**

**H. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. New Feature Exhibition at Museum of Surrey: BEES!**

File No. 0330-01

Upcoming Feature Exhibition: Bees! opens Tuesday through Sunday, October 5 to December 19, 2021.



2. **Correspondence - Pickleball/Tennis Use**

Correspondence to Mayor McCallum and the General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, dated July 29, 2021, with respect to the shortage of tennis and pickleball courts in South Surrey-Crescent Beach area, was shared with the Committee.

A brief discussion ensued with respect to the increase in pickleball and tennis, noting that need for a thorough analysis of the current courts for pickleball only, tennis only and both.

It was

Moved by S. Drysdale

Seconded by C. Girardi

That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee refer the correspondence to staff for a report back to the Committee, to include a current pickleball and tennis court analysis and recommendations.

Carried

3. **Corporate Report R158 – Award of Contracts 1721-011-11 and 1721-011 C1  
84 Avenue Corridor between King George Boulevard and 140 Street and  
Associated Park Improvements**

File No. 17210-011/11

4. **Corporate Report R179 - COVID-19: Emergency Operations Centre Update**

File No. 7130-16

I. **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Verbal Updates

L. Cavan, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture, provided the following update:

- **Registration for Fall Programs** - Registration for fall programs began on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Staff will be monitoring the uptake and delivering in a safe manner, welcoming back as many as possible. Specific facility re-opening and safety protocol updates are available on the City's website.
- **Facility Rentals** – Recreation facilities are now accepting rental inquiries for events. Following all protocols, space capacity will be at 50%.
- **Surrey Walks Together Campaign** - Overall, the summer campaign was well received and provided some new walking resources and opportunities for residents. The walking resource web page received 2,298 unique visitors, 130 contest participants and there were 727 likes on social media posts during the campaign. 83 people participated over the four volunteer led walks held in a selection of destination parks, with the last walk being postponed twice due to extreme heat. Based on the results, it has been recommended that the volunteer led walks continue in the fall as feedback received from volunteers has been very positive, including the opportunity to make social connections.

- **Newton Seniors Centre** – Re-opened in July with limited programming, including knitting, writing, wood carving, fitness 55+ and yoga 55. Overall, there has been a positive response to the re-opening and strong interest in a safe and cautious gradual increase in operations and programming.
- **Newton Arena** – Skating programs started to re-open on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Public skating, adult skating, adult figure skating and drop-in adult recreational hockey will be available at various times throughout the week. Learn to Skate lessons require advanced registration and start October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- **Youth Intervention - Outdoor Connection Program** - Healthy Communities and Youth Services was successful with the Civil Forfeitures Grant, receiving close to \$40k to engage youth outdoors in various outreach programs over eight weeks during the summer. A great opportunity to build connections with youth and receive their feedback about the outdoor amenities and what their wants/needs are.
- **Surrey's Online Tree Sales** – This popular program was expanded to four sales in 2021, providing Surrey residents the opportunity to purchase affordable, quality trees for their properties. The recent (third) online tree sale resulted in the purchase of 1200 trees. The fourth sale will be open to the public from September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 13<sup>th</sup>, with tree pickup on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The development of a new online tree sale for this fall's tree sales has greatly improved the customer experience.
- **Surrey's Releaf Community Tree Planting Program** – Will launch with a planting in celebration of National Tree Day on September 25<sup>th</sup>, followed by a number of tree planting initiatives for the public to participate. Throughout October, community groups and students from Surrey Schools will be participating in tree planting at parks across the city. Further information can be available at [www.surrey.ca/releaf](http://www.surrey.ca/releaf).
- **Surrey Civic Theatres Summer POP! (Performances Outdoors in Parks)** – Wrapped up on the weekend of September 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. The Series was supported by a \$90k grant from the Department of Canadian Heritage under the Canada Arts Presentation Fund Program, Support for Workers in Live Arts and Music Sector Fund. Completely sold out, the series was a resounding success.
- **SX International Cup 2021 (September 4 – 6)** – In partnership with Eneven Management, over 400 teams were hosted to participate in BC's largest soccer tournament, spanning three City venues (Newton Athletic Park, South Surrey Athletic Park and Cloverdale Athletic Park). It was great to see soccer again!

Future agenda items were noted as follows:

- Presentation on the interactive museum/development of a Museum Art Institute in City Centre area, to be provided at the October meeting.
- Facility updates on the Chuck Bailey expansion and the new Newton facility.
- An expanded presentation for the larger Capital Projects noted in the staff presentation to the Committee at the June 23, 2021 meeting.
- Surrey Sport Hall of Fame – Staff noted this item being considered for the 2022 workplan. Potentially a virtual hall of fame with information collected digitally (including auditory recordings) of sport individuals of Surrey that can also be showcased at City facilities.

**J. NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting of Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20, 2021.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by C. Girardi  
Seconded by B. Burnside  
That the Parks, Recreation & Culture

Committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Certified as true and correct:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Laurie Chair, Chairperson