



SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education of School District No. 63 (Saanich) will meet virtually on Wednesday, May 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Call to Order

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- (i) Consideration of Late Items
- (ii) Adoption of Agenda

3. PARKLAND TRACK

4. ADJOURNMENT

To: Board of Education

Prepared By: Jason Reid
Secretary Treasurer

Subject: Parkland Track Project

Date: May 1, 2023

Purpose

At the October 26, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Education, the Board carried the following motion: *“That the Secretary Treasurer approach Sidney and North Saanich to discuss funding the immediate completion of the track and sharing the cost of funding future renewal of the track surface.”*

Following this motion, letters were sent to Sidney (attachment 1) and North Saanich (attachment 2) to propose partnering with the Saanich School District to complete the Parkland Track replacement project.

The purpose of this briefing is to report on results of the proposals to Sidney and North Saanich, and to recommend next steps.

Funding Status

On January 23, 2023, Lizanne Chicanot and I made a presentation (attachment 3) to the Town on Sidney regarding the proposal to partner on phase 2 of the Parkland Track replacement project. On March 21, 2023, I was advised that our proposal was approved (both capital funding and renewal funding) by the Town of Sidney. Annual funding for renewal was approved as an ongoing budgetary commitment; however, Sidney does not wish to bind future councils to this budgetary allocation by agreement. Therefore, this allocation may be subject to future review and reconsideration.

On April 3, 2023, Lizanne Chicanot and I made a presentation to the District of North Saanich (consistent with the presentation made to the town of Sidney). Council deferred a decision to the April 24, 2023 council meeting. At the April 24th North Saanich Council meeting, Council approved making the capital contribution of \$83,000, and to enter into a dialogue with the Town of Sidney and School District No. 63 regarding ongoing cost sharing options.

Board direction to date has reflected the condition that the track replacement be contingent on securing funding for the upfront capital cost, and a commitment to share in the annual ongoing cost of future track renewal.

The Town of Sidney has included the renewal contribution as an ongoing budget commitment, but does not wish to enter into a binding long-term agreement. At this time the District of North Saanich has not committed to renewal contributions. As the committed funding varies from the conditions underlying previous Board direction, new Board direction is necessary before proceeding with completion at this time.

My recommendation is to proceed with engaging the contractor to complete phase 2 of the project, because any further delay risks project completion during the summer of 2023 (before the weather window closes in the fall). Over the next few months, school district staff will discuss ongoing cost sharing options with North Saanich.

Staff Recommendation

That staff be directed to engage the contractor to complete phase 2 of the Parkland track replacement project.

With Respect,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Reid".

Jason Reid
Secretary Treasurer

JR/klg

Attachments: 1 – Letter to Town of Sidney (Nov 2022)
2 – Letter to District of North Saanich (Nov 2022)
3 – Parkland Track Presentation (Jan 2023)



SCHOOL DISTRICT 63 (SAANICH)

2125 Keating Cross Road, Saanichton, BC Canada V8M 2A5
Phone: (250) 652-7300 Fax: (250) 652-6421 saanichschools.ca

November 8, 2022

Mayor and Council
Town of Sidney
2440 Sidney Avenue
Sidney, BC V8L 1Y7

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Parkland Track

The purpose of this letter is to propose partnering with the Saanich School District (“School District”) to complete the Parkland Track replacement project for the benefit of students and the broader community. At the October 26, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Education, the Board carried the following motion: *“That the Secretary Treasurer approach Sidney and North Saanich to discuss funding the immediate completion of the track and sharing the cost of funding future renewal of the track surface.”*

This proposal is being made to both the District of North Saanich (“North Saanich”) and the Town of Sidney (“Sidney”), where residents will benefit from a new 6 lane running track.

Background

Over the past 10 to 15 years there have been various attempts to raise the funds required to replace the original track, which was installed in the 1980s and has needed replacement for some time. A renewed effort to fund replacement of the track began in 2017, and since then the School District and the Memorial Park Society¹ have worked together to coordinate fund-raising efforts. In the spring of 2017, the Saanich Board of Education approved allocation of \$300,000 towards the cost of the track replacement. Following a period of delay due to the pandemic, the Parkland Track 2021 Steering Committee launched a fundraising campaign in the fall of 2020 which concluded in the spring of 2022.

The fundraising campaign raised \$144,906 through private donations and grants, and the total funds raised including the \$300,000 contribution from the School District was \$444,906. The

¹ The Saanich School District leases the land the track is located on from the Memorial Park Society through a long term lease with renewals extending to 2072. The annual rent is nominal (\$1) and requires that the lands be available for use by the public when not being used by the School District. In making the lands available to the public the school district may apply its Community Use Policy and charge fees for organized events.

project also received a donation in kind from Erdem Excavating who removed and disposed of the original track surface for no charge.

With the funds raised to date, the School District has now completed phase 1 of the replacement project consisting of rebuilding the infield including the drainage system, removal and disposal of the old track surface, proper sloping of the track foundation (gravel fill) for drainage, and installation of a new paved track surface. The total cost of phase 1 was \$389,636 leaving \$55,270 in remaining funds for the track project.

The new paved track surface could function as an operable track surface with the addition of line painting; however, phase 2 (if funded) would enhance the running surface with the addition of a 12mm polyurethane structural spray running track system with line painting. This track system is applied to the paved surface and has a service life of approximately 15 years.

The quoted cost of the running track system is \$221,284, leaving a funding shortfall of \$166,000.

If phase 2 is implemented, annual contributions of \$20,000 to a renewal fund (incrementing annually based on CPI) will be necessary to ensure the track surface can be replaced in 15 years. A portion of this annual cost may be funded from community use revenues for organized events in excess of the direct cost of organized events and annual track maintenance. Community use may be organized on an event-by-event basis and/or through an operating agreement with community organizations facilitating more regular use.

Proposal

While the track could be operable without the enhanced track surface, it is less than optimal. A rubberized running surface provides shock absorption and cushioning which protects track users from injury. It also acts like a springboard for runners and walkers giving them a more pleasant experience on the track.

In addition to benefiting Parkland Secondary and other students in the School District, we expect the track will be used extensively by residents of North Saanich and Sidney as was the case with the old track. Seniors in the community have commented that they appreciate a safe and level place to walk away from traffic. Young families use the track on the weekend as a safe outdoor recreational space. With a rubberized running surface, the track would be a valuable community asset supporting residents in leading an active and healthy lifestyle.

The School District is inviting North Saanich and Sidney to partner on phase 2 of the track replacement project as follows:

- North Saanich and Sidney each allocate \$83,000 to close the funding gap for phase 2; and,
- North Saanich, Sidney and the School District each allocate a 1/3 share of the \$20,000 (plus annual CPI adjustment) annual renewal fund contribution. This contribution will be reduced for all parties by track community use revenues in excess of the direct cost of track events and annual maintenance of the track surface.

The benefit of this proposal is the creation of a high-performance running track available to local residents free of charge and to local organizations for a fee reflecting the cost of operating/maintaining the track.

As phase 2 would be completed during the summer of 2023, capital funding could be allocated in either the 2022/23 or 2023/24 fiscal years. However, to schedule the work in the summer of 2023 funding would need to be confirmed before March 2023.

If this proposal is supported, the School District proposes that the parties collaboratively develop an agreement to clarify expectations including but not limited to: capital contribution; annual contributions to the renewal fund; use of the track (school use, community event use, and public use); and the length of the agreement.

Former Parkland Principal Lizanne Chicanot and I would be pleased to make a presentation to Mayor and Council to answer any questions and provide more information if required. Ms. Chicanot has for several years been leading the work to fundraise and plan for the replacement of the track.

Sincerely,



Jason Reid
Secretary Treasurer

JR/klg

cc: Board of Directors, Memorial Park Society



SCHOOL DISTRICT 63 (SAANICH)

2125 Keating Cross Road, Saanichton, BC Canada V8M 2A5
Phone: (250) 652-7300 Fax: (250) 652-6421 saanichschools.ca

November 8, 2022

Mayor and Council
District of North Saanich
1620 Mills Road
North Saanich, BC V8L 5S9

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Parkland Track

The purpose of this letter is to propose partnering with the Saanich School District (“School District”) to complete the Parkland Track replacement project for the benefit of students and the broader community. At the October 26, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Education, the Board carried the following motion: *“That the Secretary Treasurer approach Sidney and North Saanich to discuss funding the immediate completion of the track and sharing the cost of funding future renewal of the track surface.”*

This proposal is being made to both the District of North Saanich (“North Saanich”) and the Town of Sidney (“Sidney”), where residents will benefit from a new 6 lane running track.

Background

Over the past 10 to 15 years there have been various attempts to raise the funds required to replace the original track, which was installed in the 1980s and has been in need of replacement for some time. A renewed effort to fund replacement of the track began in 2017, and since then the School District and the Memorial Park Society¹ have worked together to coordinate fund-raising efforts. In the spring of 2017, the Saanich Board of Education approved allocation of \$300,000 towards the cost of the track replacement. Following a period of delay due to the pandemic, the Parkland Track 2021 Steering Committee launched a fundraising campaign in the fall of 2020 which concluded in the spring of 2022.

¹ The Saanich School District leases the land the track is located on from the Memorial Park Society through a long-term lease with renewals extending to 2072. The annual rent is nominal (\$1) and requires that the lands be available for use by the public when not being used by the School District. In making the lands available to the public the school district may apply its Community Use Policy and charge fees for organized events.

The fundraising campaign raised \$144,906 through private donations and grants including a Covid Restart Grant of \$25,000 gratefully received from the District of North Saanich. The total funds raised including the \$300,000 contribution from the School District was \$444,906. The project also received a donation in kind from Erdem Excavating who removed and disposed of the original track surface for no charge.

With the funds raised to date, the School District has now completed phase 1 of the replacement project consisting of rebuilding the infield including the drainage system, removal and disposal of the old track surface, proper sloping of the track foundation (gravel fill) for drainage, and installation of a new paved track surface. The total cost of phase 1 was \$389,636 leaving \$55,270 in remaining funds for the track project.

The new paved track surface could function as an operable track surface with the addition of line painting; however, phase 2 (if funded) would enhance the running surface with the addition of a 12mm polyurethane structural spray running track system with line painting. This track system is applied to the paved surface and has a service life of approximately 15 years.

The quoted cost of the running track system is \$221,284, leaving a funding shortfall of \$166,000.

If phase 2 is implemented, annual contributions of \$20,000 to a renewal fund (incrementing annually based on CPI) will be necessary to ensure the track surface can be replaced in 15 years. A portion of this annual cost may be funded from community use revenues for organized events in excess of the direct cost of organized events and annual track maintenance. Community use may be organized on an event-by-event basis and/or through an operating agreement with community organizations facilitating more regular use.

Proposal

While the track could be operable without the enhanced track surface, it is less than optimal. A rubberized running surface provides shock absorption and cushioning which protects track users from injury. It also acts like a springboard for runners and walkers giving them a more pleasant experience on the track.

In addition to benefiting Parkland Secondary and other students in the School District, we expect the track will be used extensively by residents of North Saanich and Sidney as was the case with the old track. Seniors in the community have commented that they appreciate a safe and level place to walk away from traffic. Young families use the track on the weekend as a safe outdoor recreational space. With a rubberized running surface, the track would be a valuable community asset supporting residents in leading an active and healthy lifestyle.

The School District is inviting North Saanich and Sidney to partner on phase 2 of the track replacement project as follows:

- North Saanich and Sidney each allocate \$83,000 to close the funding gap for phase 2; and,
- North Saanich, Sidney and the School District each allocate a 1/3 share of the \$20,000 (plus annual CPI adjustment) annual renewal fund contribution. This contribution will be reduced for all parties by track community use revenues in excess of the direct cost of track events and annual maintenance of the track surface.

The benefit of this proposal is the creation of a high-performance running track available to local residents free of charge and to local organizations for a fee reflecting the cost of operating/maintaining the track.

As phase 2 would be completed during the summer of 2023, capital funding could be allocated in either the 2022/23 or 2023/24 fiscal years. However, to schedule the work in the summer of 2023 funding would need to be confirmed before March 2023.

If this proposal is supported, the School District proposes that the parties collaboratively develop an agreement to clarify expectations including but not limited to: the capital contribution; annual contributions to the renewal fund; use of the track (school use, community event use, and public use); and the length of the agreement.

Former Parkland Principal Lizanne Chicanot and I would be pleased to make a presentation to Mayor and Council to answer any questions and provide more information if required. Ms. Chicanot has for several years been leading the work to fundraise and plan for the replacement of the track.

Sincerely,



Jason Reid
Secretary Treasurer

JR/klg

cc: Board of Directors, Memorial Park Society

Parkland Track Proposal

Town of Sidney
Monday, January 23rd



History

- The original track was funded to be a community asset
- Drainage issues caused the original track to deteriorate prematurely
- High utilization of the old track, even in a deteriorated state, demonstrated its value for residents
- A concerted effort to raise funds for track replacement over the past 5 years, following many previous attempts



Lease Provisions

- Land is leased by the school district from the Memorial Park Society
- Land available to the public when not needed by school district (community use fees may be charged)
- Any improvements must be for community athletic and recreational purposes for the use and enjoyment of the public
- School district responsible for maintaining land and any improvements in good condition



School District Funding

- Allocation of \$300,000 to the project reflected the school district's obligation under the lease to maintain the land and any improvements, and was the estimated cost to remove the old track and remediate field drainage issues
- School districts receive limited facilities funding and are not funded for athletic field enhancements
- Running tracks and artificial turf fields on school district property are funded as community assets through partnerships



Where are we now?

- \$444,906 in funding raised (including \$300,000 contribution from the school district)
- Phase 1 completed - old track removed, drainage issues addressed, and new paved track surface installed.
- Phase 1 cost \$389,636 leaving \$55,270 in residual funds.
- With phase 1 completed there is now an operable paved track surface fulfilling the school district's lease obligation



What is possible?



Phase 2 - an enhanced polyurethane track system applied to the paved surface creating a safer walking/running surface and a more pleasant experience

SANICH
SCHOOLS

Benefits

- A safe walking/running surface reducing impact and risk of injury
- Support residents in leading an active and healthy lifestyle.
 - We expect an enhanced track will be used extensively by residents of Sidney and North Saanich.
- A significant community amenity for a relatively low cost

Proposal

- Sidney and North Saanich each allocate \$83,000 to close the funding gap for completing phase 2
- Sidney, North Saanich and the school district each contribute a 1/3 share of a \$20,000 annual contribution (plus annual CPI adjustment) to a track surface renewal fund (with contributions reduced by any excess of annual revenues over costs).
- The parties develop an agreement clarifying expectations and terms



Questions?

