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| From: | <u>"Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca></karen.levitt@vancouver.ca></u> |
| To: | "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" |
| Date: | 11/29/2024 10:53:58 AM |
| Subject: | FWC26 Vancouver: Training Sites update – Memorial South Park Info Session |

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Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to share an update on the work progressing in support of the FIFA World Cup 26 Vancouver™ Venue Specific Training Sites.

In July, we announced the location of Vancouver's training sites (Killarney Park and Memorial South Park) in this <u>information bulletin</u>. Since that time, planning and work has progressed by Park Board staff in collaboration with the FWC26 Vancouver Host Committee. This has included the installation of development permit signs onsite, triaging of community inquiries, and ongoing stakeholder engagement with key user groups to facilitate their field needs elsewhere while preparations are made for construction at the sites in the New Year.

On December 10, 2024, staff will be bringing to Council an update and the recommended approval of the training sites early works construction contract award to Council.

This coming Saturday November 30th, staff will hold an information session for the Memorial South Park community, to share information about the project and impacts of construction closure, as well as answer questions from the community. This follows a similar session that was held for Killarney Park community members in September 2024.

We are anticipating a high turnout, which may also include members of the media. We expect that members of Council may also be approached by media and recommend you direct inquiries to <u>media@vancouver.ca</u>, as we will be coordinating media responses with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

Below are some key messages, should you wish to use them:

- Each of the 16 Host Cities for FWC26 are required to provide specialized training sites to host teams preparing for matches at BC Place. In Vancouver, these training sites will be located at Killarney Park and Memorial South Park.
- These temporary facilities will include grass soccer pitches, field lights, team facilities such as locker rooms, and a press conference room.
- Generally, these locations will be offline to the public beginning January 2025 through to September 2026.
- As a result of the work done to deliver these training sites, following FWC26, the sites will be upgraded to a grass sport field with a resurfaced track, lights, drainage irrigation systems and utilities to enhance the park's long-term usability.
- For information on the Vancouver's Venue Specific Training Sites including FAQs, please visit <u>www.vancouverfwc26.ca/training-sites</u>.

Thanks,

Karen