

From: "Amrolia, Armin" <Armin.Amrolia@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council"

Date: 6/13/2025 11:33:09 AM

Subject: Memo to Mayor and Council - Reimagine Kitsilano Pool Feasibility Study

Attachments: REFM VPB - Memo -Reimagine Kitsilano Pool Feasibility Study Engagement Update - RTS 16472.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a memo providing an update on the Reimagine Kitsilano Pool Feasibility Study, including details on the upcoming public engagement process launching June 23, 2025. This work supports the development of a renewed facility that reflects community values and climate resilience.

Key highlights:

- Public engagement will begin June 23, 2025, and includes an online survey, in-person events, and on-site outreach.
- The feasibility study explores replacement options that enhance accessibility, support wellness, and respect the cultural and ecological significance of the site.
- Findings will inform recommendations for the 2027–2030 Capital Plan, with a final report expected by the end of 2025.

Please reach out directly with any questions.

Best,

Armin

Armin Amrolia - Deputy City Manager (she/her)
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MEMORANDUM

June 13, 2025

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

FROM: Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager, General Manager, Real Estate,
Environment and Facilities Management, City of Vancouver
Steve Jackson, General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT: Reimagine Kitsilano Pool Feasibility Study – Public Engagement Update

RTS #: 16472

Purpose

To update Mayor and Council on the status of the Reimagine Kits Pool Outdoor Feasibility Study, including plans for public engagement starting June 24, 2025.

Background

In June 2024, Council passed a motion directing staff to expedite a feasibility study for the replacement of Kitsilano Outdoor Pool (Kits Pool), in partnership with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. The motion recognized the pool's iconic status, its deteriorating condition, and the opportunity to reimagine the facility to better serve Vancouver's population.

Current Status

The Reimagine Kits Pool Feasibility Study is currently underway. City and Park Board staff are working with a professional multi-disciplinary consultant team to develop replacement options that respond to climate change; enhance accessibility; support wellness; reflect the values of the community; and honour the significance of the land to the local Nations. The study scope includes aquatic facility and climate adaptation planning, coastal engineering, foreshore ecology and an archaeological assessment. Consideration is being given to the surrounding park, open spaces, outdoor performance stage, food services and the seaside greenway. The feasibility study is expected to conclude by the end of 2025. Recommendations from this study will guide future funding requests in the 2027-2030 Capital Plan.

Public Engagement Overview

Public engagement will start on June 24, 2025, to coincide with the anticipated mid-June reopening of Kits Pool. Engagement will build on extensive public input collected through VanPlay and VanSplash (2017-2018). The purpose of this engagement is to gather broad community input on how Kits Pool, the adjacent community stage and surrounding park spaces are currently used and, subject to future funding decisions, what features and improvements could be considered in a future replacement project. Public engagement is designed to:

- Facilitate a transparent process that clearly communicates project goals and constraints
- Hear from a diverse range of community members
- Offer education on the need to replace the pool and create excitement for change

Public Engagement Activities

- Online survey: Launching on June 24, 2025, the Talk Vancouver survey will be hosted on the City's Shape Your City platform at ShapeYourCity.ca/Kits-Pool-Replacement.
- In-person events: City and Park Board Staff will host three, on-site events to connect with pool and park users, share project information, and assist with survey access:
 - Saturday, June 28 | 2:00 – 5:00 PM
 - Friday, July 4 | 4:00 – 7:00 PM
 - Sunday, July 6 | 12:00 – 3:00 PM
- Intercept conversations: Smaller staff teams will be on-site starting the week of June 23 to directly connect with community members who may not participate in an organized public engagement event and encourage participation in the survey.

Participation in the survey will also be encouraged through a social media campaign; posterage throughout the Kitsilano neighbourhood and at City recreation centres; and through emails to key groups associated with Kitsilano Beach Park.

Public Engagement Next Steps

- Public Engagement will help identify community interests and priorities, which the feasibility study will use to guide Capital Plan requests.

- An Engagement summary will be shared on the City's website by fall 2025.
- Staff expect to bring options and recommendations to Council, incorporating direction from Park Board regarding service priorities, by Q4 2025.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me or Steve Jackson directly.

Regards,



Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager

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