



February 20, 2024

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Steve Jackson – General Manager, Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Foundation 9.0 Special Event at New Brighton Park Update - Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with an update on the Foundation 9.0 special event approved by the Board at a public meeting on January 22, 2024. This music concert event, to be organized by Blueprint Events and Live Nation Canada, is scheduled to take place at New Brighton Park on Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Background on Park Board Approval Process

The Park Board has an established process for approval and planning of any major special event in a public park, which was followed with respect to this initiative:

1. **Preliminary Event Coordination & Review** – The City's cross-departmental event planning team, which includes first responders such as the Vancouver Police Department, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services, and BC Ambulance Services, reviewed and provided preliminary support for the event, subject to several issues being successfully addressed. These issues included stakeholder notification and endorsement, ensuring port/marine terminal access is maintained, collaborating with PNE for parking lot access, and development of site-specific operational plans (public safety, security, transportation, medical, etc.).
2. **Obtain Board Direction** – Prior to the investment of significant staff time and costs involved in detailed event planning, staff must obtain Board approval to proceed with requests to use public park spaces, such as New Brighton Park, to host special events. The Park Board approval on January 22, 2024, was this direction.
3. **Stakeholder Engagement & Detailed Event Planning** – After receiving this approval, staff engage in the detailed planning of the proposed event. Advancing this event, or any other event in a park, involves considerable preparation after Park Board approval has been obtained, and includes broader stakeholder notification and engagement. The proposed event may only proceed if the applicant successfully addresses issues identified during the review to the satisfaction of the General Manager of the Park Board.

Current Situation

After further review and completion of additional detailed event planning steps by Park Board staff and supporting partners, several important stakeholder concerns have been identified ranging from neighbourhood sound impacts, port/marine terminal access, and potential harm to environmentally sensitive areas. As a result, and due to the short planning horizon available to address these issues, we will be advising the organizer in the next day or two that we are not in a position to permit the Foundation 9.0 event at this time.



Next Steps

We anticipate the organizer may wish to engage in further dialogue and collaboration with impacted stakeholders with the objective of successfully addressing their concerns. Park Board staff welcome the opportunity to be part of and support these discussions. Should the organizer be successful in addressing stakeholder impacts, as well as the other issues identified by the City's cross-departmental event planning team, Park Board staff are prepared to revisit this event application, subject to appropriate timelines.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Steve Jackson (*he/him*)
General Manager - Parks and Recreation

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Copy to: PB Leadership Team
PB Business Development
PB Special Events & Filming
PB Communications