

VANCOUVER PARK BOARD

TRACK+FIELD

STRATEGY



SUPPORTING AND DEVELOPING ATHLETICS IN VANCOUVER

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 30, 2019



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSIONERS

- Stuart Mackinnon, Chair
- Tricia Barker
- John Coupar
- Dave Demers
- Camil Dumont
- Gwen Giesbrecht
- John Irwin

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

- Malcom Bromley, General Manager
- Shauna Wilton, Deputy General Manager
- Dave Hutch, Director, Planning and Park Development
- Daisy Chin, Director of Recreation

STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

- Diane Clement, Achilles International Track & Field Society
- Doug Clement, Achilles International Track & Field Society
- Graeme Fell, Thunderbirds Track and Field Club
- Nigel Hole, Thunderbirds Track and Field Club, UBC Track and Field Alumni Association
- Stan Jang, Vancouver School Board Representative
- Ana Karanovic, BC Wheelchair Sports Association
- Brian McCaLder, BC Athletics
- Bronwen Mears, Exceleation Triathlon and Multi-Sport Club
- Besnik Mece, Vancouver Olympic Club, New West Spartan Track and Field
- Laurier Primeau, UBC Track and Field Club
- Anthony Tomsich, Mile2Marathon Running Club
- Greg White, Vancouver Sport Network
- Gillian Wilson-Haffenden, Vancouver School Board

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation acknowledges that the lands discussed in this document are in the unceded, traditional territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, specifically the shared traditional territories of the Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nations. The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation aims to provide, preserve and advocate for parks and recreation to benefit all people, communities and the environment, and this strategy focuses on improving how track and field sports and facilities support this mission.

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation would like to thank all those who have contributed to the Track and Field Strategy by providing guidance, direction and feedback.

STAFF WORKING GROUP VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

STAFF PROJECT TEAM

- Erin Embley, Planner II/Project Manager
- Michelle Larigakis, Planning Analyst
- Alexandre Man-Bourdon, Landscape Architect
- Doug Shearer, Manager Planning Policy and Environment

VANCOUVER BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

- Erica McDonald, Manager of Citywide Services
- Helen Chiu, Recreation Programmer

CITY OF VANCOUVER

- Michelle Collens, Senior Manager of Sport Hosting
- Matthew Halverson, Project Manager, Real Estate and Facilities Management

VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD

- James de Hoop, Manager of Planning
- Jim Meschino, Director of Planning and Facilities
- Harp Sohi, District Athletics Coordinator

CONSULTANT TEAM

R.F BINNIE & ASSOCIATES LTD.

- Blair Arbuthnot, Lead Project Manager
- Matthew Harbut, Senior Landscape Architect
- Wai-Sue Louie, Park Planner
- Monica Vogt, Presentation Graphic Specialist
- Zacharie Durand, Design Engineer
- Catherine Eiswerth, Track and Field Specialist

RC STRATEGIES + PERC

- Brian Johnston, Lead Recreation Facilities Consultant
- Stephen Slawuta, Recreation Facilities Consultant
- Ryan Schwartz, Recreation Facilities Consultant

LEES + ASSOCIATES LTD.

- Erik Lees, Lead Public Engagement Specialist
- Megan Turnock, Public Engagement Specialist
- Eileen Finn, Public Engagement Specialist

TRACK AND FIELD FACILITIES SPECIALIST

- David Weiker, IAAF Official



TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**9** WHY DO WE NEED A STRATEGY?

11 | PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

13 | STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

17 | PROCESS OVERVIEW

23 WHAT DO WE HAVE AND WHAT DID WE LEARN?

24 | SYSTEM INVENTORY

25 | EXISTING USER GROUPS

26 | CURRENT PROGRAM AND USE

30 | TRENDS AND LEADING PRACTICES

34 | REGIONAL SCAN

35 | BENCHMARKING

38 | SIGNIFICANT TRACK AND FIELD EVENT HOSTING FACILITIES

39 | PARTNERING WITH THE VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD

41 WHAT DID YOU TELL US?

42 | ROUND ONE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

43 | ROUND TWO ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

44 | ROUND THREE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

47 | ADVISORY GROUP

48 | FEEDBACK INFORMS STRATEGY

51 WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

52 | STRATEGIC THEMES

53 | RECOMMENDATIONS

67 | VANCOUVER ATHLETES

69 HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

70 | VANCOUVER PARK BOARD AND VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD COLLABORATION

71 | COOPERATION WITH USER GROUPS

72 | IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

73 | FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

75 | EXISTING CONDITIONS

78 | MONITORING AND REPORTING





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) Track and Field Strategy builds on the framework outlined in the pending *VanPlay, Parks and Recreation Master Plan*, to guide investment, management and programming at Vancouver's track and field facilities over the next 10 years. The strategy also aims to foster physical literacy and increase participation in walking, running, jumping and throwing activities by Vancouver's diverse users with differing abilities and interests. Increasing access and participation in track and field sports for residents of Vancouver also aligns with goals of the *City of Vancouver Healthy City Strategy*, and the *Vancouver Sport Strategy*. These strategies have a shared focus on quality facilities, physical literacy, sport and competition, and keeping Vancouver residents healthy and active throughout their lives.

Efforts to support and encourage physical activity respond to growing evidence that shows how early and ongoing participation in physical activities create active adults who are healthier, have stronger social ties to their community and a greater sense of well-being.

PROCESS

The strategy was developed in three phases from spring 2018 to fall of 2019 with feedback sought from residents and users across the city. The process included:

- Three rounds of public engagement comprised of open houses, pop-up events, surveys and small group meetings, engaging over 4000 people
- Ongoing consultation with an advisory group of community stakeholders from user groups
- Ongoing consultation with a working group of City, Park Board and School Board staff
- Review of the current use, programs, and conditions at 14 existing public track and field facilities (including joint-use sites with the Vancouver School Board)
- Evaluation and consideration of facility types and service levels of track field facilities across Metro Vancouver and internationally
- Development of a strategic framework
- Park Board updates, Report Reference - December 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

OUTCOMES

The Vancouver Park Board Track and Field Strategy provides both the background data and a vision for the future to guide the Park Board in providing residents new and renewed facilities and programs. Specifically, the strategy:

- Describes current conditions of existing track and field facilities
- Provides a vision for the future of track and field in Vancouver
- Identifies service gaps that create barriers to reaching the vision
- Establishes three classifications of facilities to support service level planning: Category A, B and C
- Recommends opportunities for renewal, expansion, multi-use of existing and proposed track and field facilities, programs and activities
- Establishes priorities for facility planning, improvements, and management across the city
- Proposes a preliminary conceptual design for the first Category A facility
- Outlines a plan to guide implementation over the next 10 years



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

The strategy sets forth a vision that *Vancouver's exceptional track and field facilities and activities attract and welcome all levels of track and field users, while helping Vancouver athletes grow to their fullest potential.* This vision builds on the following guiding principles:



Provide Equitable Access - Aim for equitable distribution and access to quality facilities for all Vancouverites.



Strengthen Partnerships - Work together with key school and community groups to support track and field programs and compatible activities.



Support the Growth of Track & Field in Vancouver - Increase participation in the full range of track and field sports from grassroots to competitive and foster a culture of inclusiveness through open access for people of all abilities.



Complement Citywide Initiatives and Recreation Strategies - Complement and align with other city-wide strategies and initiatives.



Inspire All Athletes - Attract and host events to showcase track and field athletic participation and achievement.



Celebrate the Past & Foster the Future - Celebrate the legacy of track and field accomplishment and foster the aspirations of current and future athletes.

THEMES

Guided by the principles, 20 recommendations are generated which are organized by the following strategic themes to help guide the future planning, management, and investment in facilities and program development:

1. Design and Infrastructure
2. Access and Participation
3. Programming and Cooperation
4. Management and Operations





WHY DO WE NEED A STRATEGY?

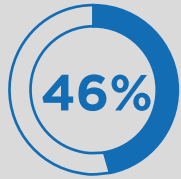
Vancouver is often rated as one of the world's most livable cities, with kilometers of picturesque shoreline and beautiful mountain vistas. However, recreation in Vancouver has many unique challenges and opportunities including land availability, cost of land, and a diverse population. Over 630,000 people live in just 114 km², making Vancouver the most densely populated city in Canada. With a fast-growing population, a limited land base and just 1,262 hectares of parkland, Vancouver now has just 2 hectares of parkland for every 1000 people. The park space available to people in Vancouver is the lowest of all 23 Canadian cities studied in the *2019 Canadian City Parks Report*.

Although Vancouver is known as having a very high quality of living, it is also one of Canada's most expensive cities to live in, mainly due to the high cost of real estate. Vancouver is also one of the most ethnically diverse cities in North America, with over 50% of people speaking a first language other than English. These factors make Vancouver unique while also making planning, locating and resourcing recreation facilities more complicated.

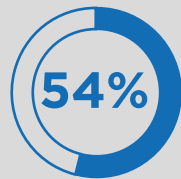
The Park Board supports growing the 'physical literacy' of Vancouver residents, meaning the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge, and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life. Physical activity and participation in sport and recreation through better access to programs, information and amenities, is described in many citywide strategies, including *VanPlay Parks and Recreation Master Plan (pending)*, the *Vancouver Healthy City Strategy*, *Vancouver Sport Strategy*, *Sport for Life Long-Term Development in Sport and Physical Activity (LTDSPA)*, *Vancouver Parks Strategic Plan* and *Vancouver Coastal Health Regional Physical Activity Strategy for Public Health* to support and encourage life-long activity as part of a healthy lifestyle for all Vancouver residents.



**PUBLIC HEALTH
IN VANCOUVER:**



exercise at least
2.5 hrs/week

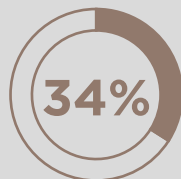


Feel a sense of
community belonging

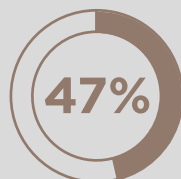
RESEARCH SHOWS:



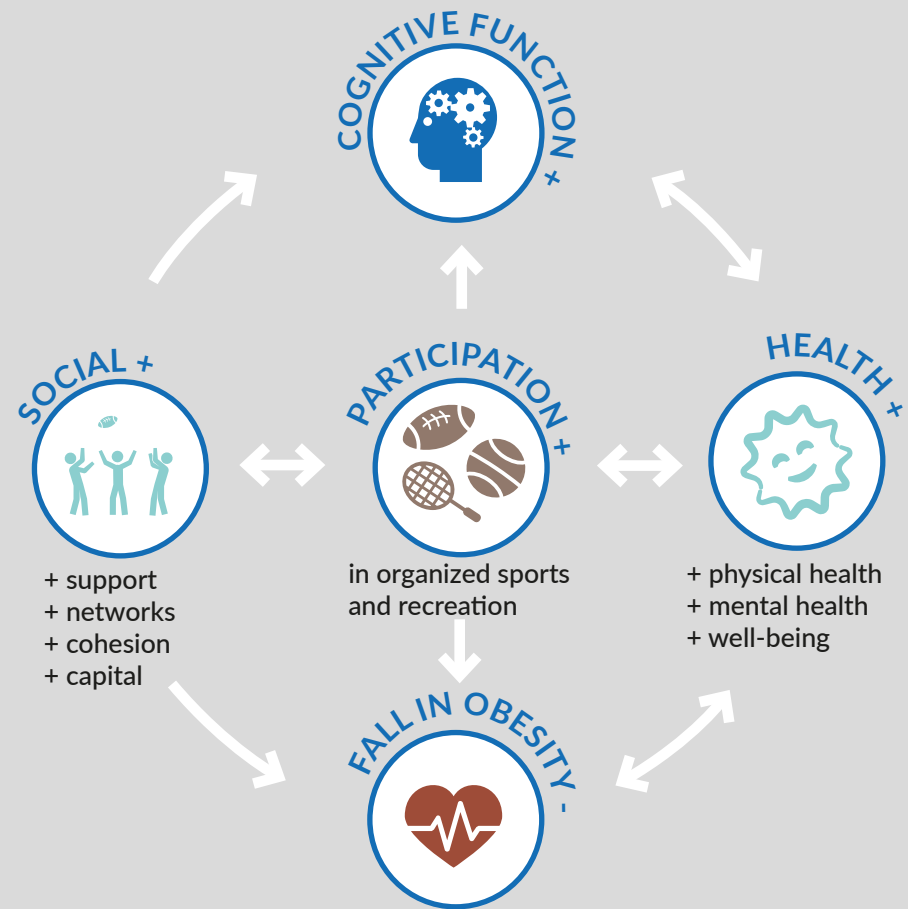
INCREASED ACCESS
= people exercising
3+ days/week



PLAYING SPORTS
= reduced stress when exercising
1-3 times per week



4+ times per week



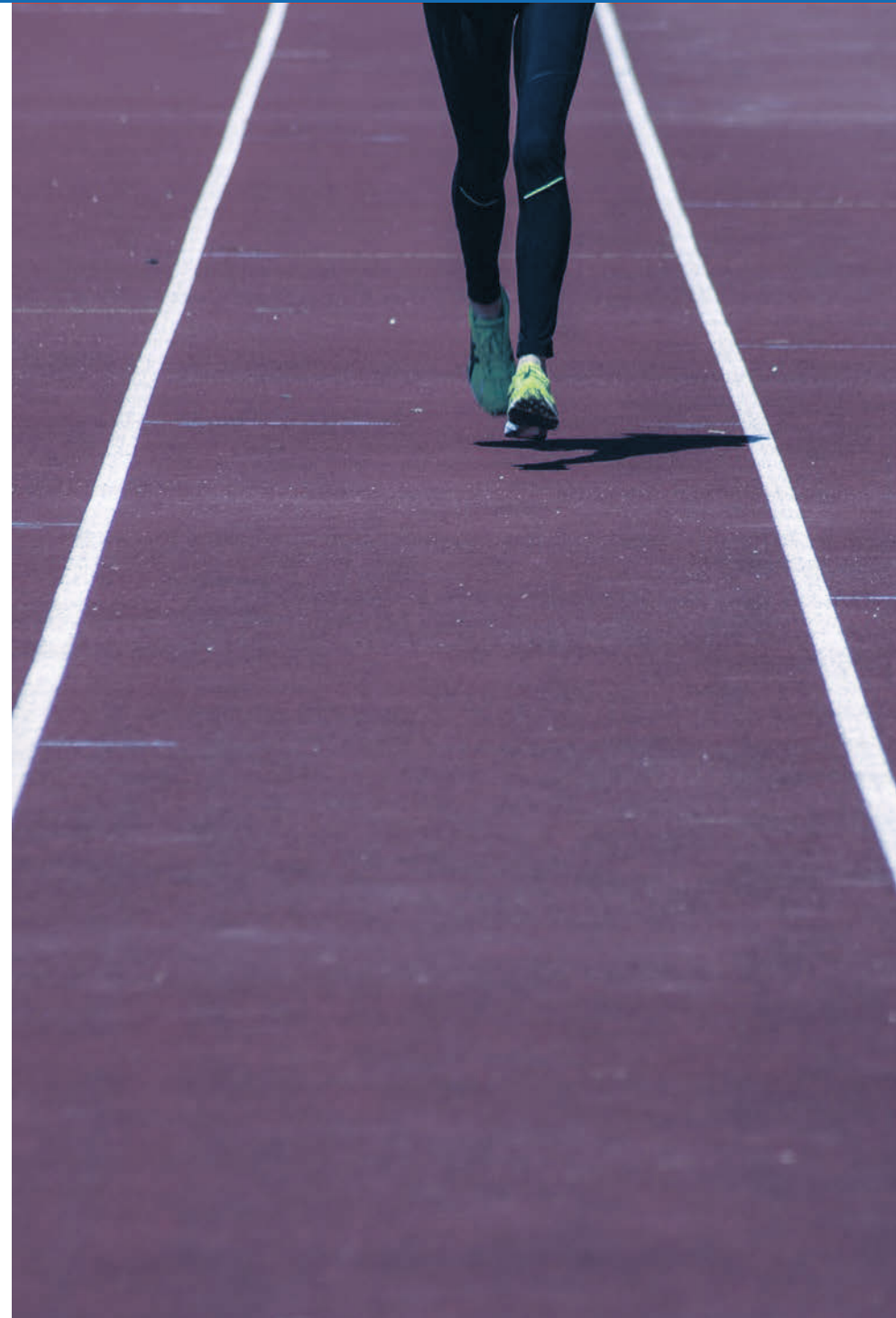
**ORGANIZED SPORTS AND RECREATION
= WELL-BEING**

PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

In Vancouver there are increasing demands and growth pressures facing most sporting facilities. Although demand is widespread, the Park Board recognizes the urgent need for improved facilities that support people participating in track and field events (also known as athletics), from casual to competitive running, jumping and throwing.

The Park Board began investigating options for a new competitive facility within Vancouver in the mid-2000s. In 2015, the Park Board allocated funds towards a new track and field strategy and competitive facility. In 2018 the Park Board, in cooperation with the Vancouver School Board, began to develop the Track and Field Strategy.

The Track and Field Strategy aims to evaluate, guide and grow athletic sports and activities including exploring opportunities for renewal, expansion, programming, management and maintenance of existing and proposed track and field facilities, locating a facility that supports training and competition, and developing a 10-year implementation plan.



PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY (CONTINUED)

Early evaluations of Park Board and School Board facilities identified that existing tracks and areas supporting field events needed to better serve Vancouver residents. The quality of Vancouver track facilities ranges greatly, from the rubberized six-lane track at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary, to an uneven paved surface track at Templeton Park. Some track sites are well used by competitive athletes (e.g. Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary, and Killarney Park), while others are primarily used for casual sport (e.g. Memorial South Park). The tracks range in size from 250m to 560m, and none have more than six lanes. Many facilities with paved surfaces have deteriorated well beyond intended useful life, with cracking, uneven surfaces, and poor drainage. Many tracks consist of loose surface material (e.g. gravel or cinder) that is less appealing to casual users and insufficient for training and competition. Currently formal participation in track and field activities is limited to school teams and community clubs, as there are no Park Board programs, or facility reservations available.

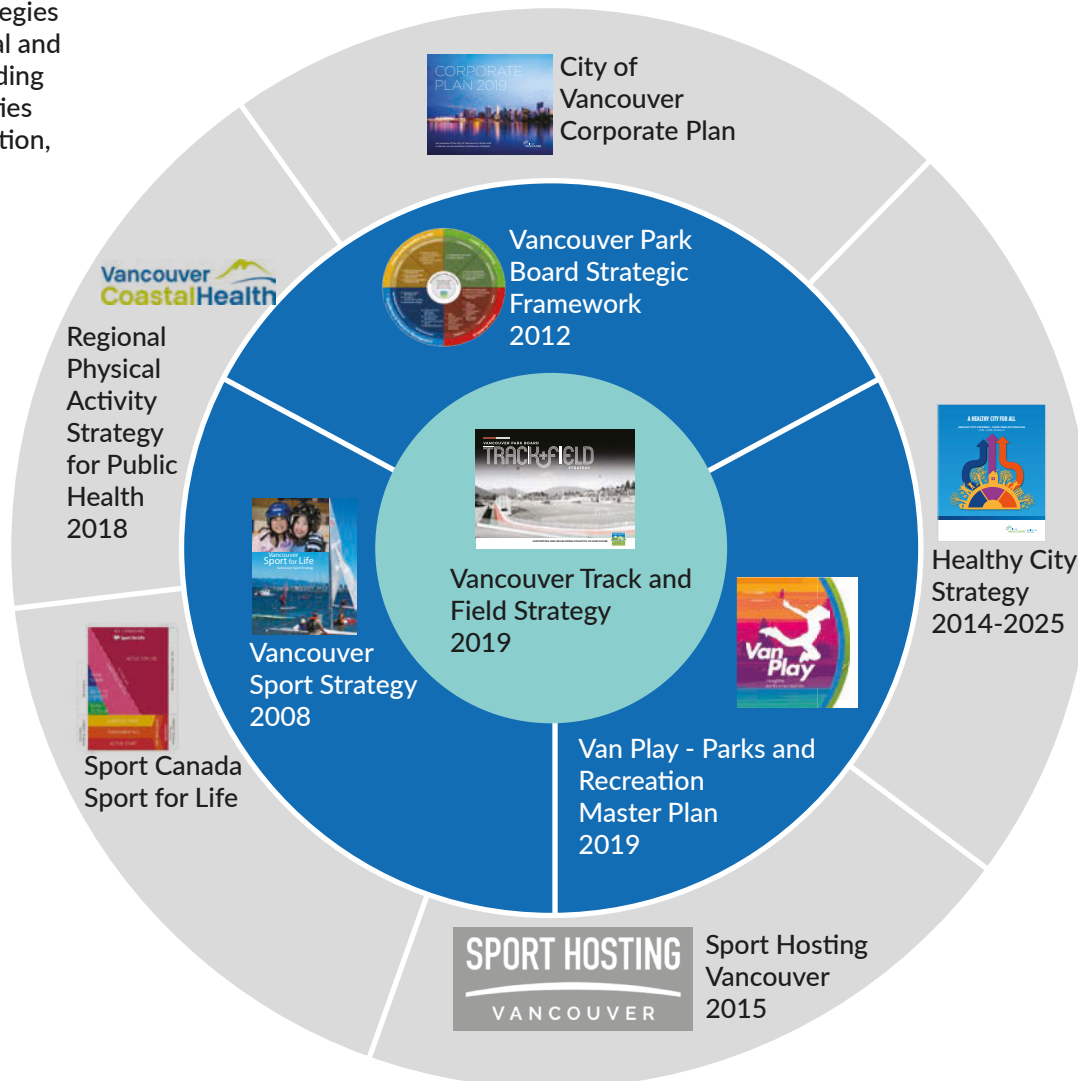
A strategic approach was needed to plan for the future including potential upgrades to surfacing, accessibility, lighting and other amenities to improve the experience for users of all ages and abilities as well as new programming and reservation opportunities to inspire new users and meet the needs of existing users.

A clear priority emerged, and the City and Park Board (with feedback from the Vancouver Field Sports Federation) identified the need for a competitive, 8-lane facility to support competition and training for running, jumping and throwing. Without a single site within the city boundaries that is well-equipped for track and field training and competition, it is very difficult to support the full spectrum of track and field sports and limits the potential of athletes in Vancouver to reach high-level competition. A new facility would also expand Sport Hosting opportunities, as a competitive sport facility can attract and host higher caliber events that can inspire and challenge local athletes. A competitive sport facility with multi-functional design could also host a variety of events and activities beyond track and field when needed and create opportunities to build connections with community partners.



STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The Vancouver Track and Field Strategy builds on the principles and goals of many complementary and overarching strategies and documents. These local, provincial and national strategies are aimed at providing accessible, diverse and quality amenities and services that encourage participation, including:



Regional Physical Activity Strategy for Public Health 2018



Sport Canada Sport for Life



Vancouver Sport Strategy 2008



Vancouver Track and Field Strategy 2019



Van Play - Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2019



Sport Hosting Vancouver 2015



Healthy City Strategy 2014-2025



City of Vancouver Corporate Plan



Vancouver Park Board Strategic Framework 2012

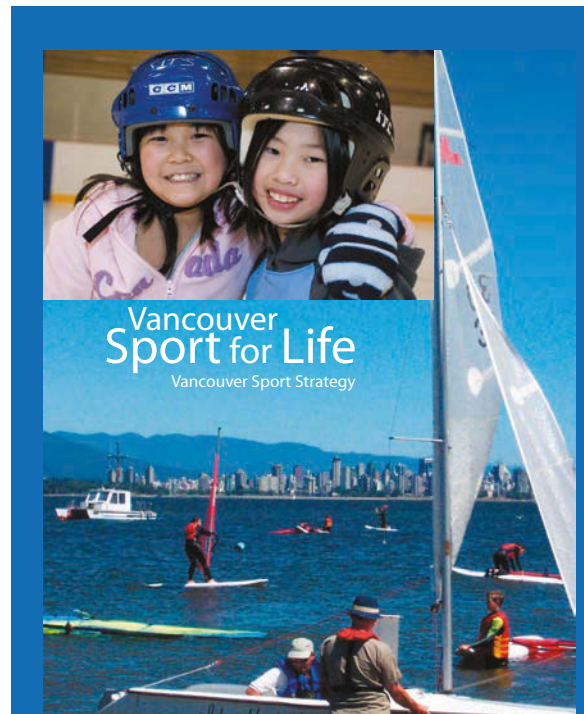
STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT (CONTINUED)

PARK BOARD



VANCOUVER PARK BOARD STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

- The Park Board's mission is to provide, preserve and advocate for parks and recreation to benefit all people, communities and the environment



VANCOUVER SPORT FOR LIFE STRATEGY (VSS)

- Within the framework of the *Canadian Sport for Life Model*, the VSS identifies six strategic goals that include detailed recommendations and outcomes for success in developing sport in Vancouver



VAN PLAY - PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN (PENDING)

Among the 10 goals to shape the next 25 years:

- Grow and renew recreation assets
- Prioritize resource delivery
- Focus and Support Partners
- Welcoming spaces for all
- Secure funding for the repair, renewal and replacement of recreation assets

Equity Initiative Zones - Service Gap Identification

CITY OF VANCOUVER

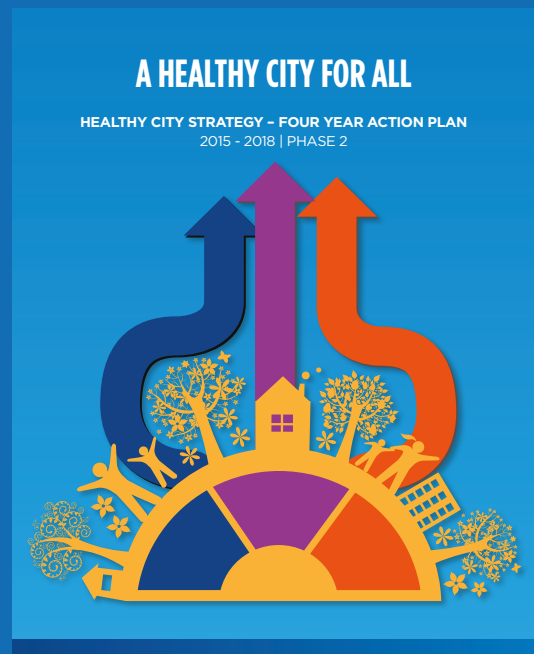
CORPORATE PLAN GOAL NO. 9



VANCOUVER OFFERS EXTRAORDINARY CIVIC AMENITIES

The City provides high-quality recreational, social, cultural and lifelong learning amenities that provide everyone in the city the opportunity to develop and enjoy themselves, and help attract the talent needed in our city to maintain a strong economy.

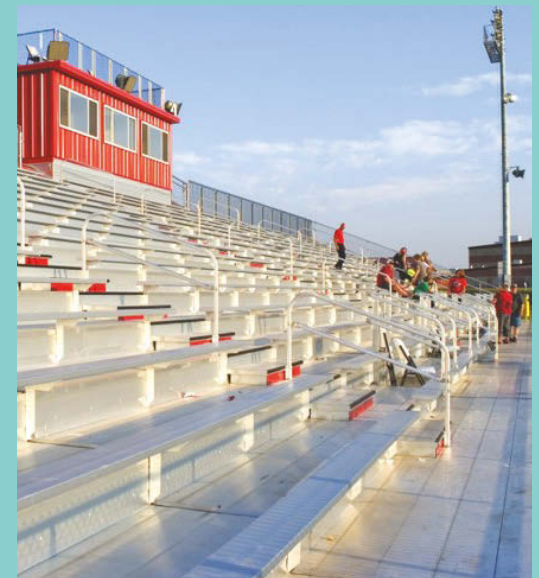
HEALTHY CITY STRATEGY GOAL NO.12



Continue to encourage stronger walking connections through the community planning process, with a priority on areas with the largest concentrations of under-served residents.

SPORT HOSTING VANCOUVER ACTION PLAN GOAL NO.5

SPORT HOSTING VANCOUVER



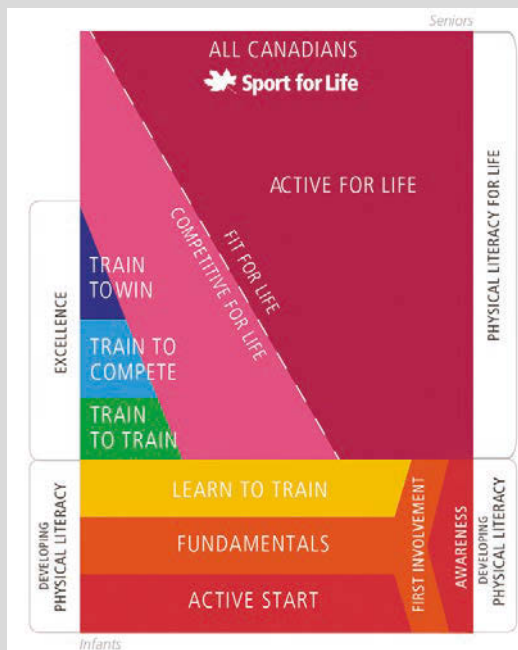
Increase Vancouver's profile as a sport hosting destination

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT (CONTINUED)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

SPORT CANADA
SPORT FOR LIFE
LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY 3.0 (LTDSPA)

The Sport For Life development goals are physical literacy, active for life, and excellence. Track and Field facility categories are developed to facilitate the 8 stages for long-term physical developmental literacy for children, youth and adults to optimize participation.



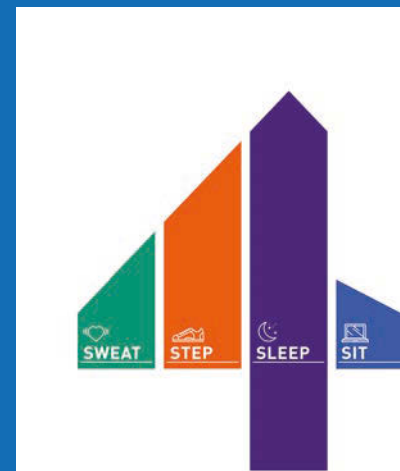
"The benefits of physical activity – expressed in many ways through structured and unstructured sport, recreation, active living and play – are universally recognized for their vital contribution to health and well-being"

"It is within sport and physical activity's reach to improve health and well-being, inclusion, gender equality, and other social challenges."

VANCOUVER COASTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
REGIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, 2018

It is the strategic framework for articulating and coordinating the Physical Activity-related functions and actions of VCH Public Health. The strategy aligns VCH work with the *BC Physical Activity Strategy*, the *BC Guiding Framework for Public Health*, and *Active Canada 2020*.

THE CANADIAN 24-HOUR MOVEMENT GUIDELINES



... "the goal is to increase moderate to vigorous physical activity (sweat), light movement (step), sleep, and to reduce the amount of time sitting and on screens"

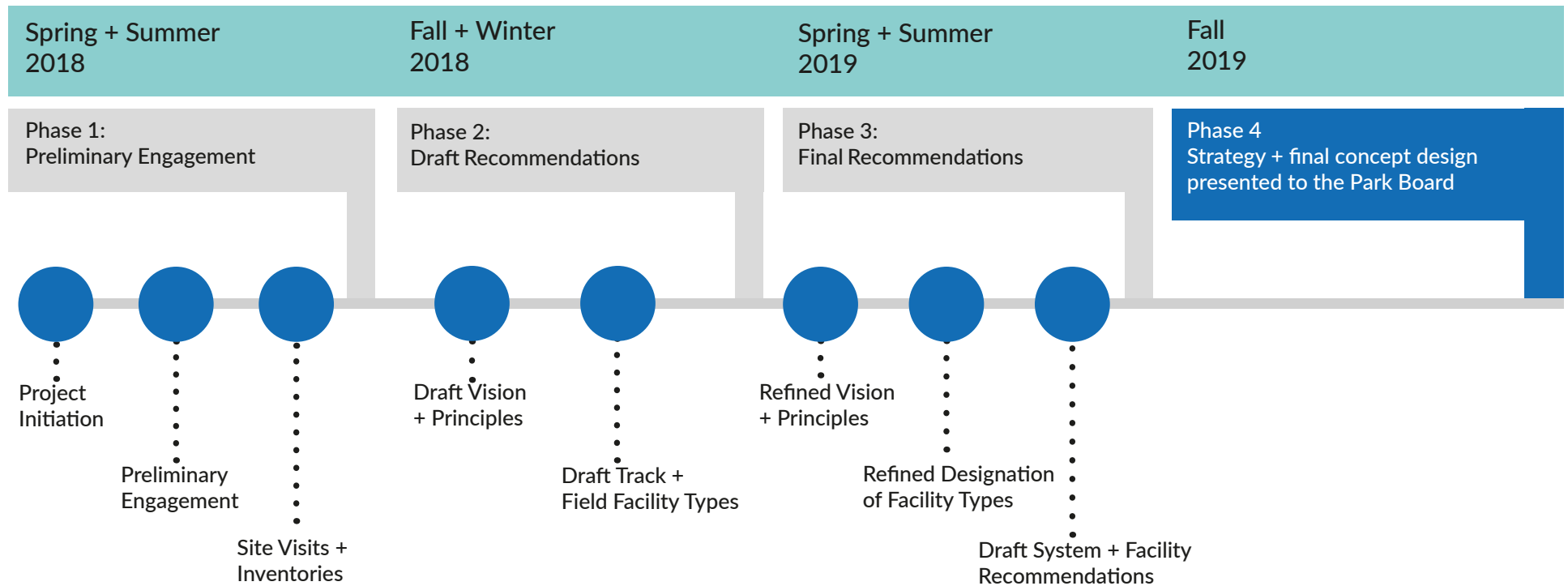
... an important goal and indication of success is the % of the target population making positive shifts within the realms of the 24-Hour Movement Guidelines

PROCESS OVERVIEW

The strategy was developed in four phases from spring 2018 to fall of 2019 with feedback sought from residents and users across the city. The process included:

- Three rounds of public engagement
- Review of the current use, programs, and conditions of 14 existing public track and field facilities (including joint-use sites with the Vancouver School Board)
- Evaluation and consideration of facility types and service levels of track field facilities across Metro Vancouver and internationally
- Development of a strategic framework

PROJECT TIMELINE

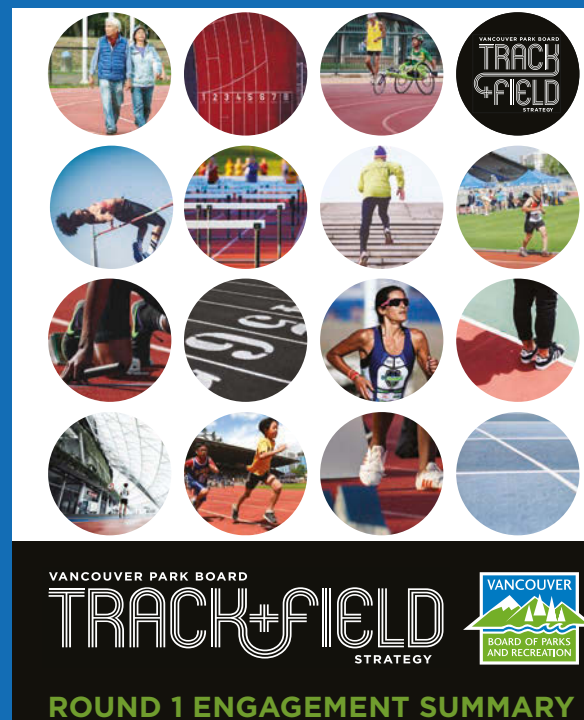


PROCESS OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

PHASE ONE - PROJECT INITIATION - SPRING AND SUMMER OF 2018

The Park Board initiated the project and began early public engagement to coincide with the start of track and field season.

1. The Park Board prepared a communication plan, graphics and branding
2. Initial Public Engagement
 - Launched online TalkVancouver survey to obtain early feedback from both adults and children
 - Pop-up attendance at organized track and field events to start early dialogue to engaged user groups and the general public
 - Formation and consultation with a Stakeholder Advisory Group
 - Public engagement responses are summarized in the Engagement Summary Spring 2018 Report (Appendix B)



PHASE TWO – REVIEW, RESEARCH, AND EVALUATE - FALL AND WINTER 2018

This phase focused on testing the draft vision and principles, exploring barriers to participation in athletic sports, testing facility typologies and site sorting process.

- Gathered and reviewed policies and associated strategic literature
- Identified stakeholders, user groups, current facility use and programs
- Reviewed recent local, regional and national trends and precedents
- Reviewed benchmarking and gap analysis of use, coverage and service level

DEVELOPED A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

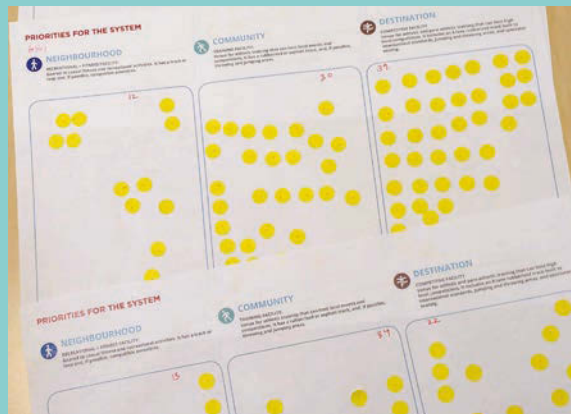
- Based on responses from initial public engagement and feedback from the community advisory group, a strategic framework was developed to include a vision and overarching principles to guide the process and development of recommendations. More information is located under Recommendations.

SITE REVIEW AND INVENTORY

- Conducted site review and inventory of 14 existing publicly accessible running tracks in Vancouver with 7 in parks and 7 on school grounds. They have variable surface types and support amenities facilities. Completed site suitability and facility assessments were completed (Appendix C).

Draft Facility typologies were developed to categorize existing facilities that could best accommodate the diverse needs, use and programs for organized user groups, schools and the general community to include Category A, B and C.

Sites were sorted in these categories according to criteria that considered site feasibility, users, intended program and level of service. More information on the process is available in Appendix C.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT – ROUND TWO
 Developed Discussion Guide One that provided context and outlined the content needing feedback
 Launched online TalkVancouver surveys in English, Chinese and Punjabi
 Engaged participants at stakeholder and public workshops and two open houses
 Round two engagement responses are summarized in the *Engagement November 2018 Report (Appendix B)*

PROCESS OVERVIEW (CONTINUED)

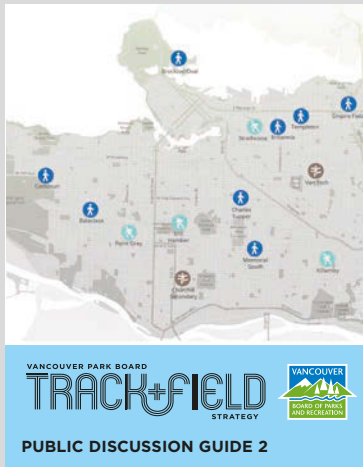
PHASE THREE - DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS - SPRING AND SUMMER 2019

This phase focused on refining recommendations, testing locations to determine options for a competition track facility, verifying priority improvements for facilities, and exploring potential program priorities.

- Refined the strategic vision and guiding principles with Stakeholders, Advisory Group and Staff Working Group
- Refined facility categories and site designation
- Developed Draft Recommendations
- Defined Category A and B Facility requirements and standards

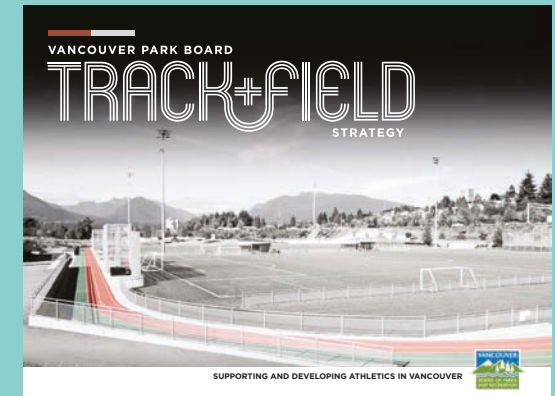
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT - ROUND THREE

- Developed Discussion Guide Two
- Launched online TalkVancouver survey in English, Chinese and Punjabi
- Hosted 2 open houses
- Pop-up attendance at 9 schools, walking, track and field events to continue dialogue
- Round three public engagement responses are summarized in the *Engagement Spring 2019 Report (Appendix B)*



PHASE FOUR - DRAFT FINAL STRATEGY - FALL 2019

Draft final strategy, recommendations and implementation plan.







WHAT DO WE HAVE AND WHAT DID WE LEARN?

SYSTEM INVENTORY

There are currently 14 publicly accessible running tracks in Vancouver. The tracks range in size from 250m to 560m, with 6 lanes or less, variable surface types, condition, and support amenities.

Seven are located in parks:

- Balaclava Park
- Brockton Oval in Stanley Park
- Empire Fields in Hastings Park
- Killarney Park
- Memorial South Park
- Strathcona Park
- Templeton Park

Seven are located at Vancouver School Board (VSB) schools:

- Britannia Secondary
- Sir Charles Tupper Secondary
- Sir Winston Churchill Secondary
- Eric Hamber Secondary
- Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary
- Vancouver Technical Secondary
- Camosun Park (Provincially owned, leased to the City of Vancouver and sub-leased to the Vancouver School Board).

The quality of Vancouver track facilities range from a rubberized 6 lane track at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary, to an uneven paved surface track at Templeton Park. Some track sites are well used by athletes (e.g. Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary and Killarney Park), while others are primarily used for casual sport, and recreational walking (e.g. Memorial South Park and Empire Fields).

More detailed information on site conditions and amenities at each track are summarized in Appendix C.

SYSTEM INVENTORY

VANCOUVER PARK BOARD SITE

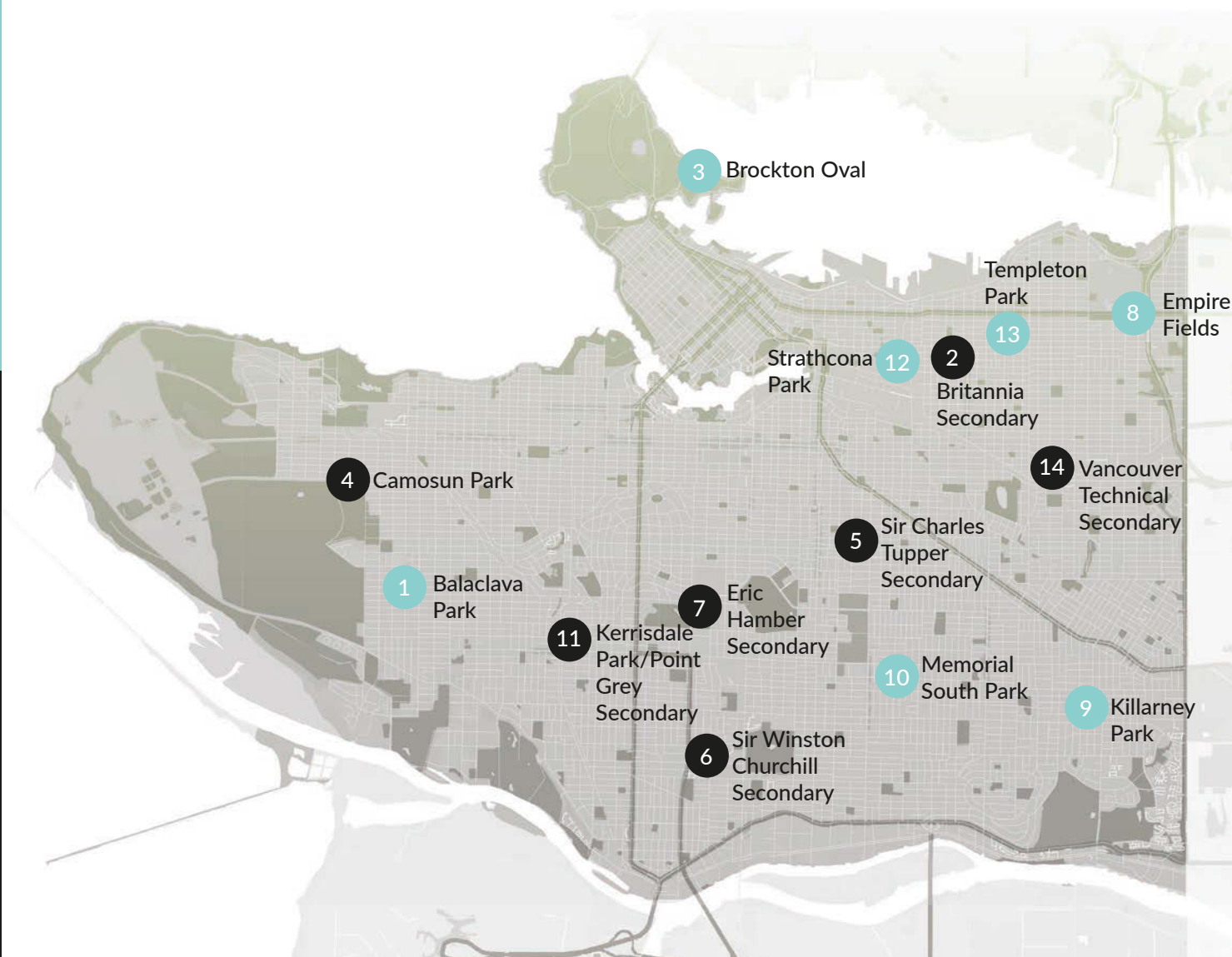
- 1 - Balaclava Park
- 3 - Brockton Oval
- 8 - Empire Fields
- 9 - Killarney Park
- 10 - Memorial South Park
- 12 - Strathcona Park
- 13 - Templeton Park

VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD SITE

- 2 - Britannia Secondary School
- 4 - Camosun Park¹
- 5 - Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School
- 6 - Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
- 7 - Eric Hamber Secondary School²
- 11 - Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School
- 14 - Vancouver Technical Secondary School

¹-Provincially owned, leased to the City of Vancouver and sub-leased to the Vancouver School Board

²-Not included due to seismic upgrades



EXISTING USER GROUPS

Existing track facilities are well used by a diverse cross section of the population including local residents, school students, local running groups, and track and field clubs, for casual walking/running, school sport activities, focused training and hosting competitive events. The majority of users of Vancouver facilities are listed below.

There are 26 Track Groups currently registered with BC Athletics representing teens to adults and from Vancouver, North Vancouver, Burnaby, West Vancouver, New Westminister, and Richmond.

Refer to Appendix C for more information.



There are approximately 23 organized running groups with varying members from 80 to 5700 members.



There are approximately 19 public secondary schools, with a total of over 2030 student athletes participating in track League and Championships in 2018. Most host their Zone Meet events at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School.



There are approximately 68 public elementary schools participating in elementary school Zone Track Meets with events hosted at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary, Sir Winston Churchill Secondary, Eric Hamber Secondary, Vancouver Technical Secondary and Swangard Stadium.



The casual, spontaneous, and recreational user group is not well documented as there is no formal tracking to measure their use. From observations at various facilities and feedback from public engagement, they are a significant user and need to be considered in the planning and design of new or renovated track and field facilities and programming.

CURRENT PROGRAM AND USE

Currently there are no Park Board programs or organized bookings associated with existing facilities. However, many elementary and secondary schools run regular track and field programs, and cross-country running programs using existing tracks.

FACILITY USAGE:

Anecdotal and survey data indicate the existing track and field facilities in Vancouver are well-used. The highest use areas align with sites with facility lighting, rubberized surfacing, and locations that can accommodate large track and field teams from schools and clubs.



COMMUNITY USE:

Park Board and School Board staff indicate that clubs, running groups and public facility use is:

Highest:

- Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary
- Killarney Park
- Memorial South Park

Lowest:

- Strathcona Park
- Sir Charles Tupper Secondary



SCHOOL USER GROUPS

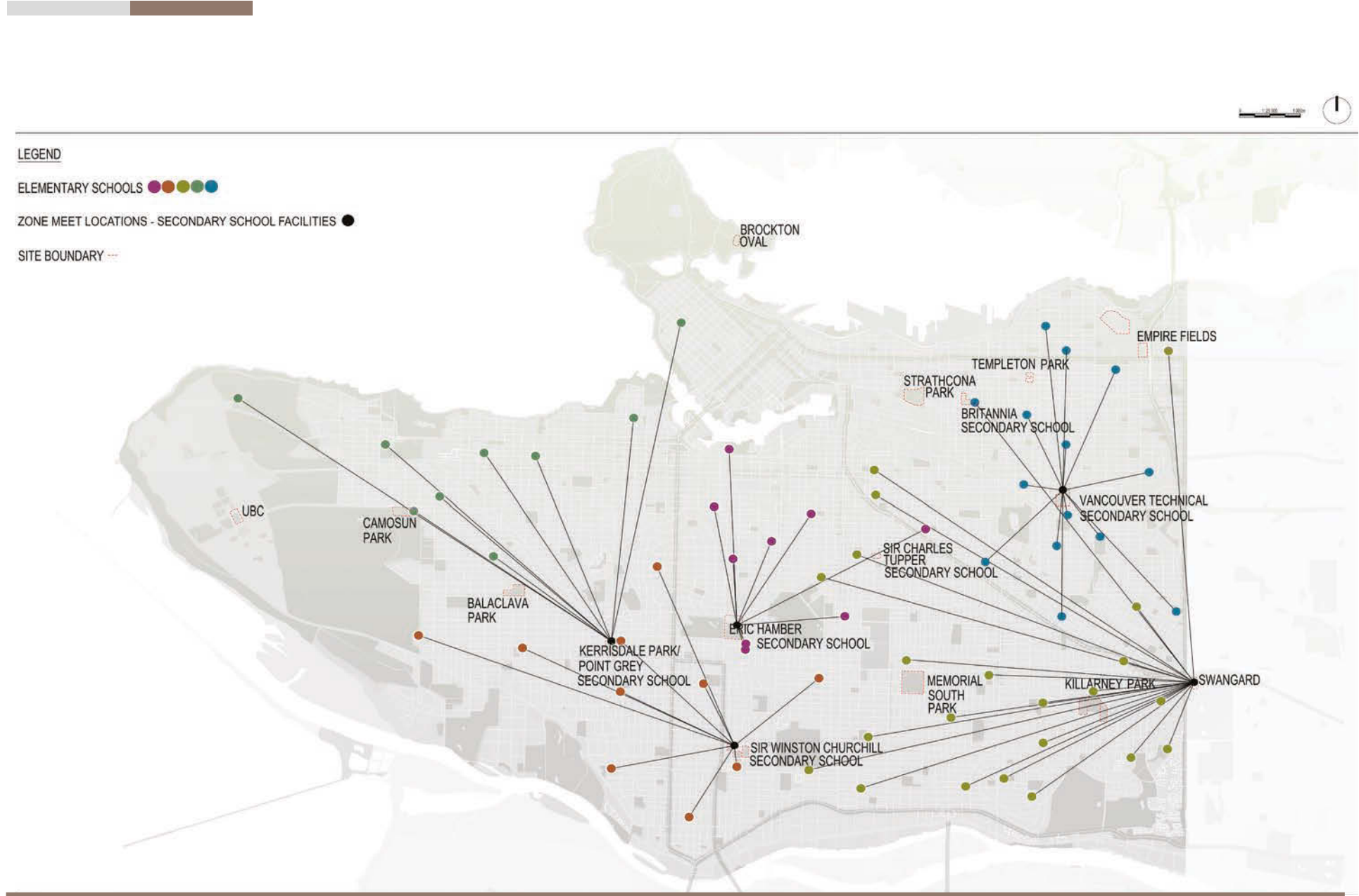
A total 4000+ school athletes citywide participate in track and field events.

Elementary Schools

- Elementary Zone Track Meets are held based on the four geographic zones with one meet for each participating zone. These events are hosted at secondary schools with tracks, with the largest meet at Swangard Stadium. The zone meets also run some mini meets in lead up to the zone meet but that varies from zone to zone.
- Practices held at the home school at two to four times a week during track season, from March to early June
- Approximately 600 elementary students, from 14 east side elementary schools participate in training and practice programs (before school, lunch time or after school) sponsored by the Jerome Outreach Society

Independent Schools

- There 10 independent secondary schools in Vancouver that have track programs, some with their own track facilities. Participation and programs for independent schools are not known.



TRACK MEET LOCATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

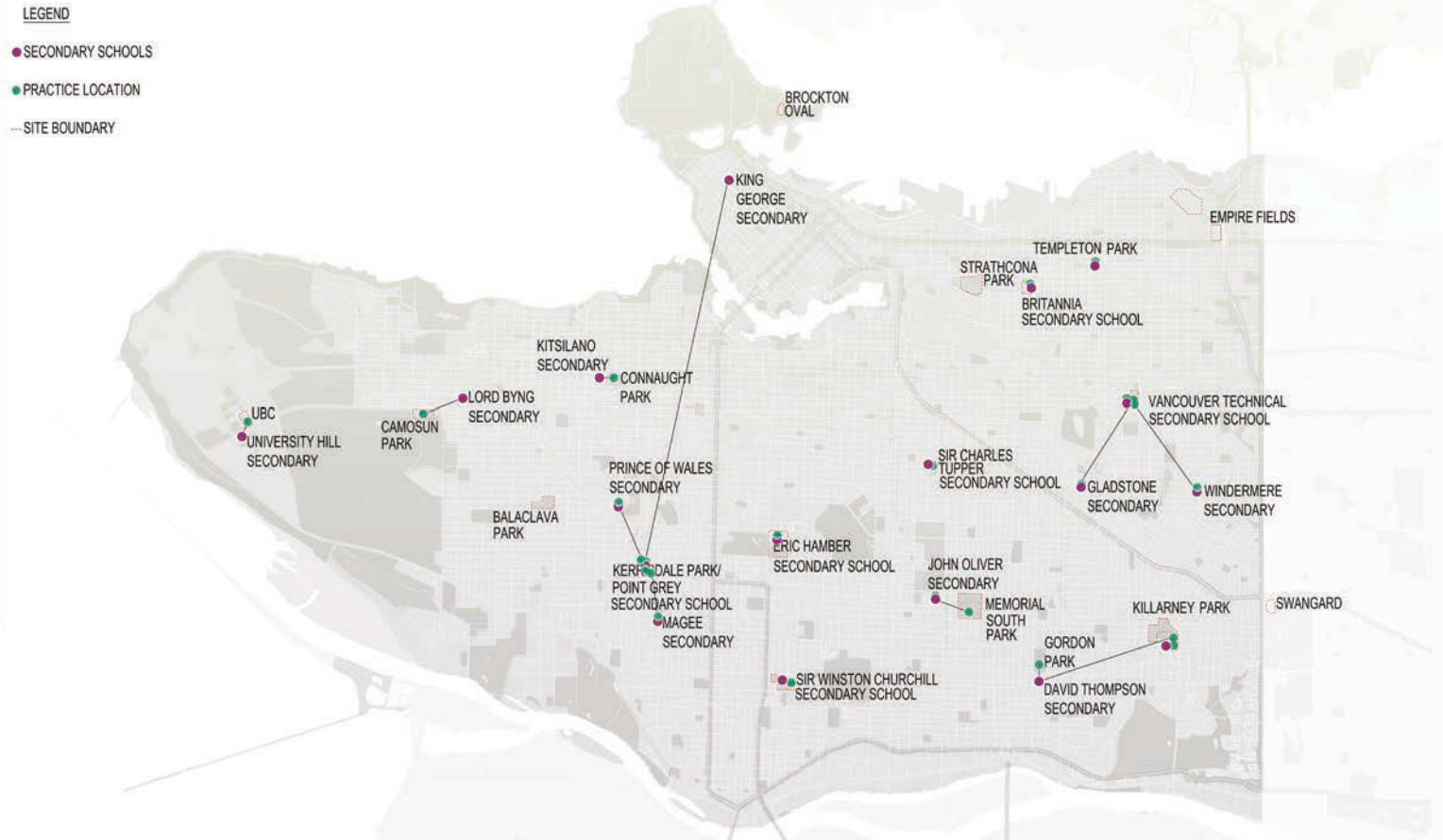
CURRENT PROGRAM AND USE (CONTINUED)

FACILITY USAGE

Secondary Schools:

- Vancouver Secondary Schools Athletic Association league meets are hosted at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary with steeplechase meets hosted at UBC. City championships are held at Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary and UBC over two days in May (Appendix C).
- Most Secondary School teams practice at their own school, however some schools such as Gladstone and Windermere practice together with the Vancouver Technical team on their track.

PRACTICE LOCATIONS FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS



FACILITY USE BY RESPONDENTS - GROUPED BY POSTAL CODE

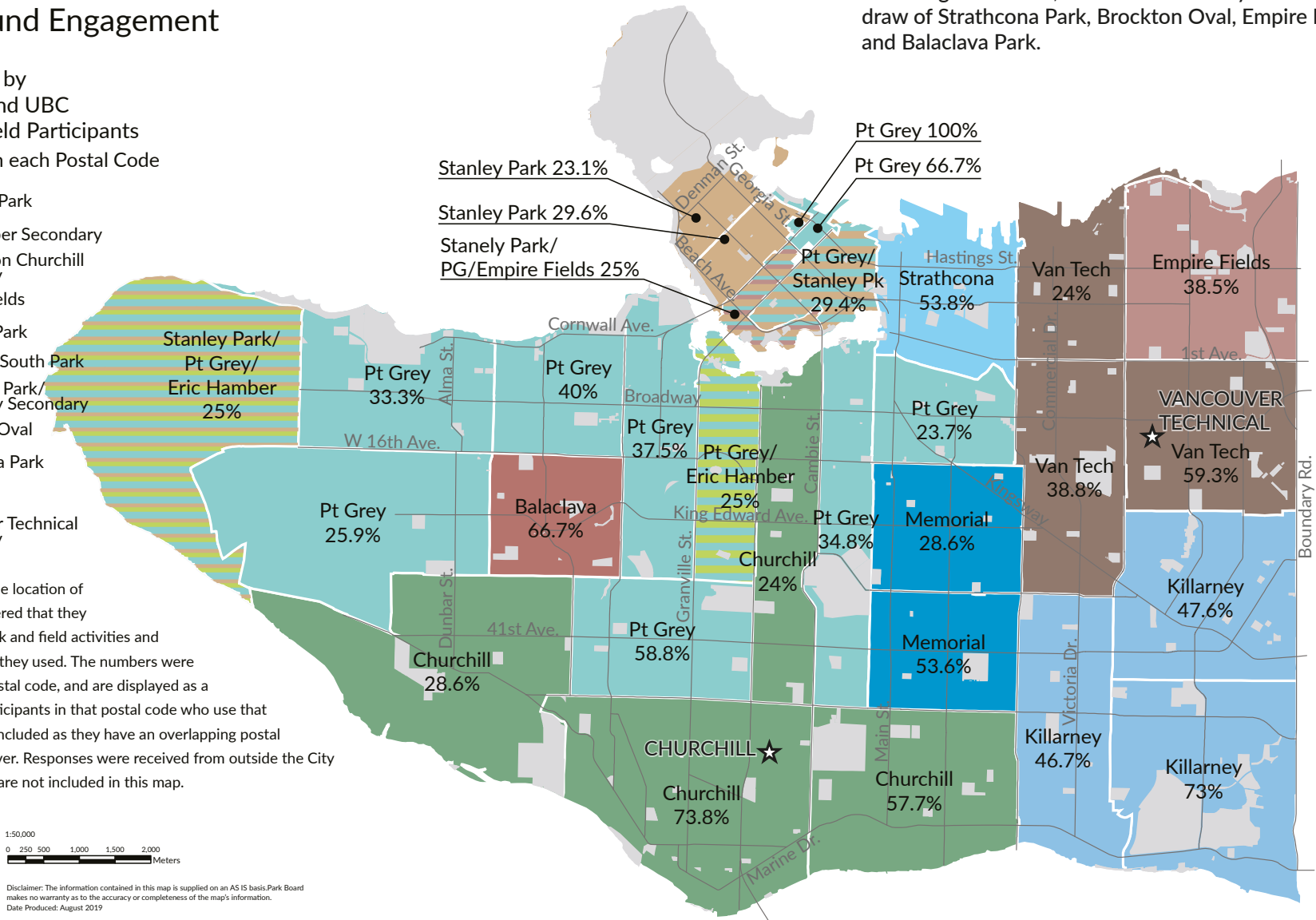
Third Round Engagement

Facility Used by Vancouver and UBC Track and Field Participants
Percent within each Postal Code

- Balaclava Park
- Eric Hamber Secondary
- Sir Winston Churchill Secondary
- Empire Fields
- Killarney Park
- Memorial South Park
- Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary
- Brockton Oval
- Strathcona Park
- UBC
- Vancouver Technical Secondary

This map shows the location of people who answered that they participated in track and field activities and which facility that they used. The numbers were summarized by postal code, and are displayed as a percentage of participants in that postal code who use that facility. UBC was included as they have an overlapping postal code with Vancouver. Responses were received from outside the City of Vancouver, but are not included in this map.

- Responses from the survey showed that many track and field participants are traveling to Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School from across the City.
- Most existing track and field facilities primarily serve the local neighbourhood, as demonstrated by the limited draw of Strathcona Park, Brockton Oval, Empire Fields, and Balaclava Park.



1:50,000
0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Meters
Disclaimer: The information contained in this map is supplied on an AS IS basis. Park Board makes no warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of the map's information.
Date Produced: August 2019

TRENDS AND LEADING PRACTICES

A review of trends and leading practices indicate broader factors that may influence future users of Track and Field facilities in Vancouver.

OVERALL PARTICIPATION TRENDS AND INDICATORS

Available data from B.C. Athletics suggests that overall participation in formalized athletics has remained relatively consistent. In 2016, membership was 6398 people and rose to 6453 in 2018. This is approximately 1 out of every 1000 residents of BC. In contrast to many other sports, participation by gender in B.C. Athletics sanctioned programming and events is evenly split between females and males (approximately 51% male and 49% female in 2018).

A number of broader sports, recreation, and physical activity participation trends are also important to note for context:

- The *Canadian Youth Sport Report (2014)* identified that Track and Field remains one of the top 10 sports in Canada among children and youth ages 8–17. The Report also found that 84% of Canadian youth in the 8–17 age range participate in sports of some kind and 60% do it on an organized basis. Approximately 330,000 Canadian children and youth participate in track and field annually², with 187,000 student participants in “Run Jump Throw Wheel” (2016) with a goal of 350,000 by 2020³
- A research paper commissioned by Statistics Canada, *Sport Participation 2010*, found that income and education have a direct relationship to sport participation. Additionally, the study found that refugees and new Canadians participate at lower rates than those citizens who were born or have long standing status in Canada.

In addition to B.C. Athletics track and field programming and events, a significant proportion of track and field participation occurs through the school system, with an estimated 90,000 B.C. students participating in track in 2016¹.

Run Jump Throw Wheel is a national program developed by Athletics Canada that teaches fundamental movement skills and develops physical literacy. Refer to page 64 for more information.



^{1,3} Athletics Canada

² *Canadian Youth Sport Report, 2014*

ADAPTIVE USES

Track and field infrastructure provides an important supportive environment for adaptive forms of athletics. Adaptive uses can generally be classified into two categories:

1. Programs for individuals with intellectual disabilities. Special Olympics BC offers programming across 4 types of athletics disciplines (track events, distance events, field events, and multi-events). Special Olympics B.C. experienced overall growth of 17% from 2011 – 2016⁴.
2. Programs for individuals with physical limitations or disabilities. Athletics Canada identifies 11 different classifications for athletes who compete from a seated position which fall under two main categories: wheelchair racing and seated throws⁵. An American publication, 'Athletics for All' also provides a resource which identifies numerous forms of adaptive track and field and the benefits accrued by providing all individuals with access to athletics opportunities.⁶

⁴ Special Olympics B.C. Strategic Plan

⁵ <https://athletics.ca/>

⁶ https://cdn2.sportngin.com/attachments/document/0116/1100/Adapted_Track_and_Field_EMAIL.pdf

Jessye Brockway -
BC Athletics 2014 Female
Para-Athlete of the Year



TRENDS AND LEADING PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

EMPHASIS ON PHYSICAL LITERACY

Recent research demonstrates that youth are more likely to participate in physical activity (and continue doing so throughout their life) if they develop sufficient levels of physical literacy as children. Athletics Canada's Run Jump Throw Wheel program is regarded as a leading initiative in the development of physical literacy skill development, and elements of the program have been replicated across numerous other regional, provincial, and national initiatives. This new area of focus could increase demand for track and field facilities and increase formal and informal participation by people of all ages in the future.

The British Columbia Parks and Recreation Association conducted an environmental scan of municipalities in the province in 2015. The scan found that 63% of municipalities in British Columbia are deliberately focusing on providing physical literacy opportunities in their program offerings. However, 63% also indicated that there is not a currently a community wide strategy in place for addressing physical literacy.

BALANCING "STRUCTURED" AND "SPONTANEOUS" NEEDS

There is a growing desire for unstructured and unprogrammed recreation spaces to compliment structured spaces and well-developed programs. This trend has altered how many public sector providers plan, design, and program venues. For outdoor recreation venues, including track and field facilities, broader community needs for casual walking and running are priorities considered along with sport club and event hosting needs.



OUTDOOR RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Other notable, broader trends and leading practices in the planning, design, and operations of outdoor recreation sites are to better meet public needs, increase equity, durability, efficiency, sustainability and ease management requirements that may impact existing or future track and field infrastructure.

- Continued demand for synthetic turf fields to provide more playable hours, extend seasons of play, address safety, quality of experience, and multi-purpose capability
- Include more amenities for user comfort and convenience. Examples include more public washrooms, changerooms, comfortable spectator viewing areas, concessions, group meeting space, on-site storage, wifi, water and electrical hook-ups
- Provide high levels of accessibility for individuals facing physical or cognitive barriers
- Design spaces for maximum flexibility and multi-use where possible to maximize efficiency and available resources
- Consider event hosting in venue design to ensure facilities meet the requirements to host varying levels and types of events to enable communities and regions to attract events and competitions
- Growth in charity runs and fun runs, such as the 'Run for the Cure', 'Tough Mudder', 'Color me Rad', that require large venues
- Increasing community-wide safety and security needs, including disaster support hubs in the case of emergencies, and spaces to support the short-term needs of vulnerable communities during extreme events (e.g. extreme heat or cold, and poor air quality conditions)
- A growing demand for resilient and low-impact walking and running surfaces



REGIONAL SCAN

A regional scan was undertaken to identify potential track and field (and related) projects across Metro Vancouver and other notable considerations that may impact the future supply of track and field infrastructure in the region. The regional scan included:

- A review of available strategic planning documents (e.g. Master Plans, Strategic Plans, Outdoor Amenity/Facility Strategies)
- Capital budgets
- Other pertinent documentation as available

Key findings from the regional scan are noted as follows:

- Numerous artificial turf projects are identified across the region, but most have not yet determined if they will include running tracks or other track and field amenities
- Several strategic planning documents speak to working with local school divisions to upgrade sport field and track facilities
- New track and field venues identified in planning documents:
 - Maple Ridge (conceptual design phase)
 - North Delta Secondary School (estimated cost is \$10 M.

Planning and conceptual design ongoing)

- Abbotsford (identified for the 2024 – 2028 timeframe)
- Chilliwack (funds allocated in capital budget over the next 7 years)
- Surrey (major enhancement projects and a new park site development; track and field inclusion is not yet defined)
- West Vancouver Secondary

It is important to note a number of limitations of this research and other factors that may influence the future regional supply of track and field infrastructure, including:

- For a number of reasons, timing can be uncertain on municipalities' implementation of recreation facilities
- Track and field amenities are often included as secondary spaces (e.g. part of an artificial turf field facility) and the level of access to these spaces is often dependent on the use of the field space (e.g. use of the track might not be possible during soccer and football games)

Also notable is that no examples of track and field specific strategic planning were found in the region, provincially or across Canada. Track and field infrastructure needs are most often included as part of broader strategic planning exercise such as Recreation Master Plans, Outdoor Amenity Strategies, etc.

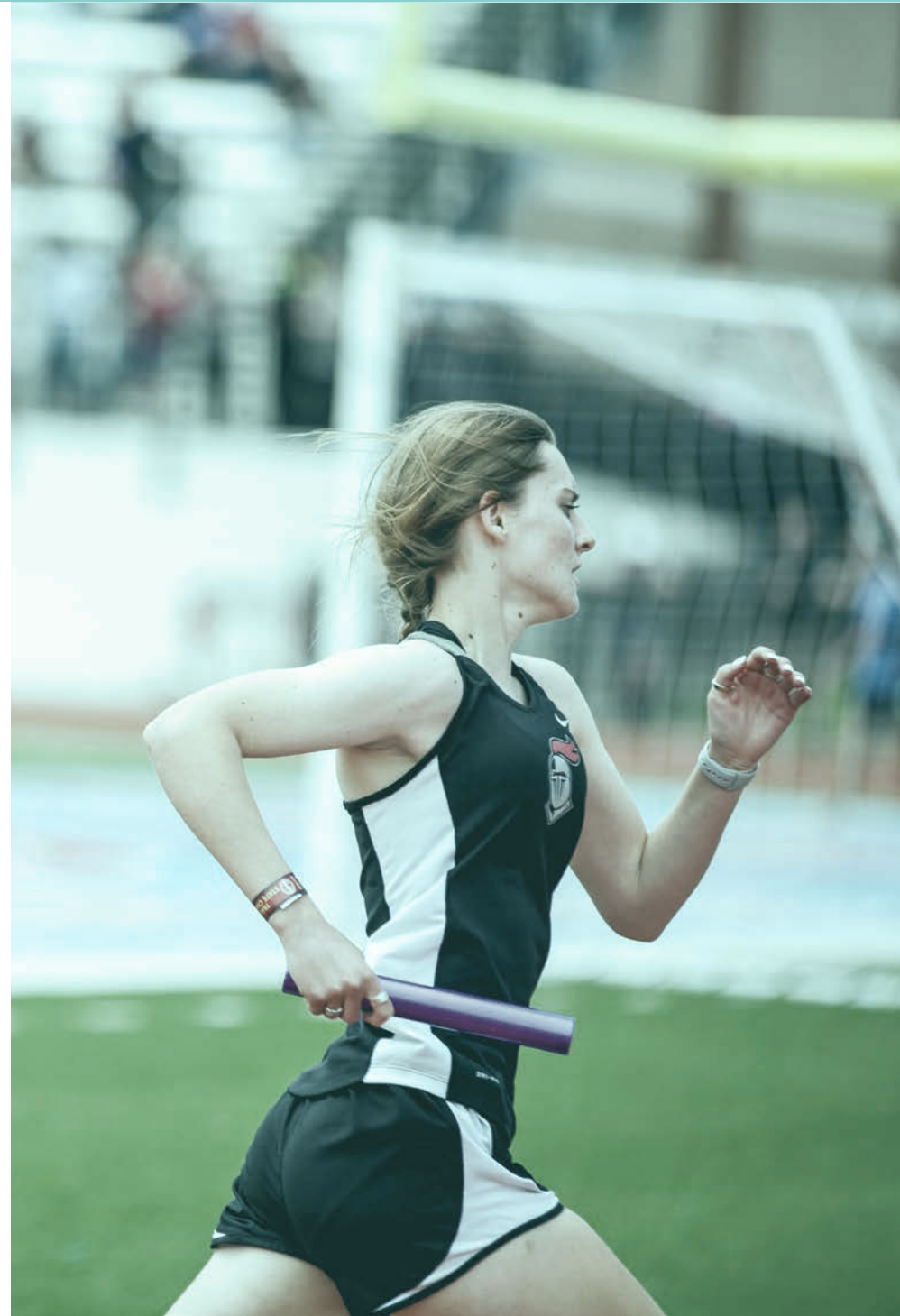
Refer to Appendix D for more information.



BENCHMARKING

Evaluating the quantity and quality of track and field facilities in Vancouver against facilities and service levels in other comparable cities was completed to help clarify current best practices and identify local areas for improvement. The following summarizes track and field facilities in comparable municipalities focusing on quantity of tracks and does not take into account many elements of quality such as the condition of the space, jumping or throwing infrastructure or the availability of support amenities, nor accessibility for track and field user groups. Every urban region also has unique dynamics which influence market need, including the proximity to other municipalities, climate, local user group demand and trends, and capacity of other organizations to provide sport and recreation infrastructure (e.g. prevalence of post-secondary institutions, private sector providers, etc.). Also important to note is spontaneous use is also difficult to measure. Many public sector providers of parks and recreation are placing an increasing emphasis on collecting this data through the use of counters and regular 'spot' counts.

The list of track facilities in each city included those owned by cities, public and private schools, and universities/colleges. However, only tracks owned by cities and public schools were included in service calculations. Recreation facilities were also not included as they are primarily non-bookable facilities used for fitness, casual and informal athletic activities. Tracks categorized under Category A and B facilities are primarily used by organized user groups, clubs, schools, and booked for training programs and competition events.



BENCHMARKING (CONTINUED)



CITY OF VANCOUVER

Vancouver has a population of 681,386 (2016) with 14 facilities available to the public including 1 category B (Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary) and 13 category C facilities. This provides 1 category A/B facility per 631,386 people.

Total of 15.5 Track Facilities

- 7 Parks Board tracks
- 7 Public school tracks
- 1 University facility - UBC Rashpal Dhillon 8-lane track is the highest quality, but UBC students and programs are priority
- 0.5 Private school track - St George's Secondary School has a rubberized half track (on private land)

Notes:

- 4.5 are rubberized
- Most tracks are neighbourhood or physical education tracks
- Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary 6-lane track is highest quality of public tracks
- Empire Fields 4-lane track is a high-quality community amenity

- 0 Category A
- 1 Category B
- 13 Category C



CITY OF BURNABY

Burnaby has a population of 232,755 (2016) with 7 tracks available to the public. They are comprised of 1 category A, 1 category B and 5 category C facilities. This provides 2 category A/B facilities; 1 per 116,377 people.

Total of 9 Track Facilities

- 3 City tracks
- 4 Public school tracks
- 1 Private school track
- 1 University track

Notes:

- 5 are rubberized; 3 have 8 lanes
- Swangard is the premier track and field stadium in Metro Vancouver
- Confederation Park is a high-quality community-use rubberized track

- 1 Category A
- 1 Category B
- 5 Category C



CITY OF SURREY




Surrey has a population of 517,887 (2016) with 4 tracks available to the public. The facilities are comprised of 3 category A and 1 category C facility. This provides 3 category A/B facilities; 1 per 172,629 people.

Total of 7 Track Facilities

- 3 City tracks
- 1 Public school
- 3 Private school

Notes:

- 5 are rubberized
- All 3 City tracks are 8-lane rubberized

-  3 Category A
-  0 Category B
-  1 Category C



CITY OF SEATTLE




Seattle has a population of 686,800 (2016) with 20 tracks available to the public. The facilities include 5 category A, 3 category B, and 12 category C facilities. This provides 8 category A/B facilities; 1 per 85,850 people.

Total of 23 Track Facilities

- 7 City tracks
- 13 Public School Tracks
- 3 University Tracks

Notes:

- 20 are rubberized
- 6 tracks have 8 lanes
- 2 City tracks are competition-level 8-lane including one similar to Swangard

-  5 Category A
-  3 Category B
-  12 Category C

SIGNIFICANT TRACK AND FIELD EVENT HOSTING FACILITIES

Benchmarking was also conducted to identify track and field event hosting facilities (>1,500 fixed seating capacity) across British Columbia and Alberta. This information is pertinent as it provides an overview of the western Canadian options for hosting major events and competitions.

TABLE 1: SIGNIFICANT TRACK AND FIELD HOSTING FACILITIES

Venue	City	Grandstand Capacity
Centennial Stadium	Victoria (University of Victoria)	5,000
Swangard Stadium	Burnaby	4,500
McLeod Athletic Park	Langley	2,200
Apple Bowl	Kelowna	2,300
Hillside Stadium	Kamloops	2,000
Masich Place Stadium	Prince George	1,800
Foote Field	Edmonton	1,500
Foothills Athletic Park	Calgary	1,500
Community Sports Stadium	Lethbridge	2,000
Rotary Bowl	Nanaimo	1,500

Most of these facilities support a full complement of field events, lighting, concessions, digital timing and score boards, warm up facilities, and washrooms/changerooms.



PARTNERING WITH THE VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD

The Track and Field Strategy builds on the strategic partnership between the Park Board and the Vancouver School Board in upgrading and maintaining existing track sites for school and public use in a way that supports city-wide equity. Currently there are shared-use agreements in place for sport facilities at Vancouver Technical, Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey and Eric Hamber Secondary Schools. These agreements outline terms for school and public use covering:

- Hours of use for school vs. hours booked by the Park Board
- Process and protocols for booking
- Cost sharing for capital expenditures for improvements
- Maintenance responsibilities and costs
- Equipment storage



Photo by Braden Collum on Unsplash



VAN



P

PUBL

VAN



P

VANCO



PUB

VAN



P

VANCOU



PUB

VANCOUVER PARK BOARD

TRACK+FIELD

STRATEG

PUBLIC DISCUSSION GUIDE

GUIDE 1

WHAT DID YOU TELL US?

The development of the Track and Field Strategy was informed by a comprehensive public engagement process starting in the spring of 2018 and ending in early summer 2019. Park Board staff attended track and field events and other public events to encourage participation. A social media campaign informed thousands of people about the project how they could participate. The following are some of the highlights and key topics that were particularly influenced by the public engagement input and feedback. Additional details on each round of engagement are provided on the following pages, as well as in Appendix B.

An Advisory Group made up of key stakeholders representing a range of different areas of interest and expertise in track and field was also an important part of the engagement process. Their expertise in track and field programs, facility requirements, and event hosting were invaluable, as were their perspectives on current track and field facilities, program gaps and priority needs. The Advisory Group also helped the Park Board with outreach to track and field teams and clubs as well as helping to strengthen communication with Vancouver School Board coaches and teachers.

ROUND 1: SPRING 2018 1,586 PARTICIPANTS

- Online Survey
- Pop-ups at Track and Field Events
- Advisory Group Formed

ROUND 2: WINTER 2018 939 PARTICIPANTS

- Online Survey
- 2 Stakeholder/Public Workshops
- 2 Advisory Group meetings

ROUND 3: SPRING 2019 1,396 PARTICIPANTS

- Online Survey
- Pop-ups at Track and Field Events and Facilities
- 2 Public Open Houses
- 2 Advisory Group meetings



ROUND ONE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

In Round 1 we asked the community to tell us about who, where, when, how and why they participate in track and field activities. We also asked about barriers to participation and priorities for programming and facility improvements. We heard from 1,586 people.

During the first phase of public engagement, the Park Board conducted a preliminary survey from June 15 to August 30, 2018 to better understand:

- Who participates in track and field activities in Vancouver
- Popular times of day and season
- Popular locations both in Vancouver and in the region
- How people participate
- Top barriers to participation
- Top priorities for programming and facility improvements

In addition to the online survey, Park Board staff held pop-up consultation at seven track and field events in the Lower Mainland in Spring 2018.



Key Findings

- People participate in all four seasons and at all times of day, not just during the primary track and field season of March through July.
- Participants live all across the city, and many currently travel to Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School for practices and competitions.
- People also travel to facilities outside of Vancouver such as UBC Dhillon Track, Swangard Stadium and Minoru Oval to participate, particularly for competitions.
- People in Vancouver enjoy the health benefits and social aspects of track and field participation, as well as that it is low cost and low barrier. The social, health, and team aspects were also important for those who answered the kids' survey.

This input informed the development of the Draft Vision and Principles by highlighting the critical need for improved facilities, strike a balance between competitive and casual users, increase equity and access across the city, and to focus on creating opportunities for partnerships and more participation.

For more detailed information on Phase 1 engagement, refer to the *Round 1 Engagement Summary Report*.

Kids survey answers to the question: What do you like about track and field?



Who uses Vancouver's existing track and field facilities?

- Track and field school teams
- Track and field clubs
- Triathlon clubs
- Para-athletic athletes
- Long-distance running groups
- Seniors walking groups
- Casual users (walkers, joggers)

What programming and facility improvements are top priorities?

- Improve existing facilities and amenities
- Provide welcoming, inclusive and accessible facilities
- Provide more track and field facilities
- Create more opportunities for social connections and community belonging through track and field
- Create stronger ties between the Park Board and Vancouver School Board to provide facilities and deliver programs

ROUND TWO ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

In Round 2 we asked the community to give us feedback on the draft Vision and Principles, the criteria for prioritizing facility improvements, some preliminary ideas for improving awareness and programming, as well as ideas for making facilities more welcoming, inclusive, and accessible. We heard from 939 people.

In December 2018, the Park Board shared a draft vision and principles, as well as three facility typologies in a Discussion Guide, and asked for feedback through an on-line survey, stakeholder/public workshops, and meetings to better understand:

- The extent of support for the draft vision and level of agreement or disagreement with each principle
- Priorities for improvement for the different types of facilities - Category A, B or C. Key criteria for determining facilities to prioritize for improvements

We also asked questions to help us understand how to:

- Improve awareness of track and field facilities and programs
- Support inclusive, welcoming, and accessible track and field facilities

Top 3 Goals:

- Strengthen Partnerships
- Support the Growth of Track and Field
- Provide Equitable Access

"I like that it encompasses all levels of users, not just competitive."

- Round 2 survey comment regarding the draft vision

KEY FINDINGS

- Strong support for the draft principles, the majority of survey respondents (72% or more) agreed or strongly agreed with each of the draft principles.
- Respondents want equitable access and an improved distribution of facilities
- Including "all levels" of track and field users in the vision is important.
- The most important facility types identified by survey respondents were Category C (37%) and Category B (35%).
- The top criteria for determining what facilities to prioritize for improvements were:
 - Those close to a community facility or school (66%)
 - Those that improve equitable access city-wide (59%)
 - Those accessible by bus (55%)



60% of survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the Vision statement:

"Vancouver's exceptional track and field facilities and activities attract and elevate all levels of track and field users, helping Vancouver athletes grow to their fullest potential."

Respondents noted that the vision should be more inclusive of everyone and recognize the health benefits. The vision was updated based on this feedback to:

"Vancouver's exceptional track and field facilities and activities attract and welcome all levels of track and field users, while helping Vancouver athletes grow to their fullest potential."



ROUND THREE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

In Round 3 we asked the community to give us feedback on two potential locations for Category A track and field facilities, to contribute ideas on which facility improvements should be prioritized for Category C and B facilities, and what programs they were most interested in. We heard from 1,396 people.

COMMENTS FROM THE ROUND 3 SURVEY

“It would be good to have at least one competition track and field facility somewhere in the west/southwest of the city, and it could be here (Sir Winston Churchill Secondary). Parking is very congested in this area and should be taken into account.”

“Vancouver Technical Secondary is in a fast-growing neighborhood. Not to mention East Van itself...A high-quality Competition Track and Field Facility in East Van will strengthen and nurture our current and future pool of athletes.”

In June 2019, the Park Board conducted an online survey, held 2 public open houses and 4 pop-up open houses at events around the city to help us better understand:

- What facility improvements were the highest priority for Category C facilities
- What facility improvements were the highest priority for Category B facilities
- The benefits and challenges of potential competition level track facilities at Vancouver Technical Secondary and Sir Winston Churchill Secondary Schools
- The importance of making all users feel welcome at all categories of facilities

KEY FINDINGS

Strong support for both potential competition level track and field facility sites.

The most important facility improvement for Category B and C facilities for users is better track surfacing. Other desired amenities are washrooms, drinking water stations, and lighting.

There were over 170 open-ended comments enthusiastically in support of improving track and field facilities in Vancouver. Reasons for support included the benefits to health and well-being and reducing travel time for participants.

TABLE 2: LEVEL OF AGREEMENT WITH EACH STATEMENT FOR EACH LOCATION

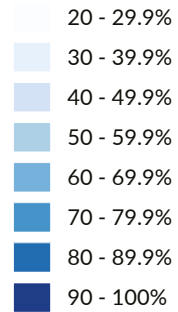
	IT WOULD BENEFIT LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS	IT WOULD BENEFIT USERS CITY WIDE	IT WOULD MEET NEEDS OF ORGANIZED TRACK AND FIELD USER GROUPS	IT WOULD DISPLACE USERS
Sir Winston Churchill Secondary	70%	68%	67%	24%
Vancouver Technical Secondary	69%	69%	68%	23%



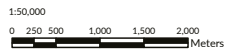
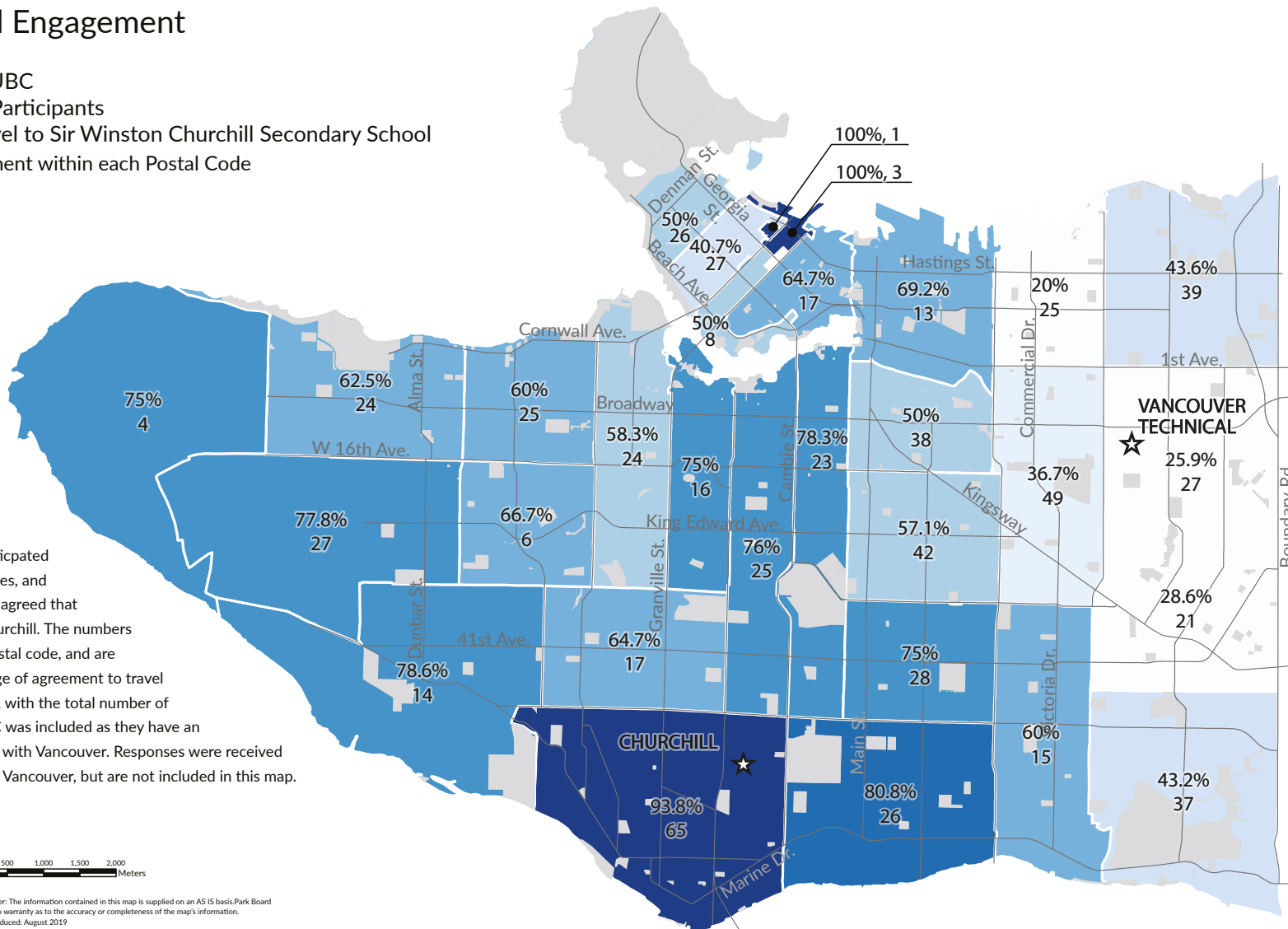
POTENTIAL FACILITY USE BY RESPONDENTS - GROUPED BY POSTAL CODE

Third Round Engagement

Vancouver and UBC
Track and Field Participants
Who Would Travel to Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School
Percent of Agreement within each Postal Code



This map shows the location of people who answered that they participated in track and field activities, and 'somewhat' or 'strongly' agreed that they would travel to Churchill. The numbers were summarized by postal code, and are displayed as a percentage of agreement to travel within each postal code, with the total number of participants below. UBC was included as they have an overlapping postal code with Vancouver. Responses were received from outside the City of Vancouver, but are not included in this map.



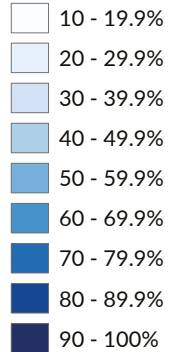
Disclaimer: The information contained in this map is supplied on an AS IS basis. Park Board makes no warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of the map's information.
Date Produced: August 2019

ROUND THREE ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

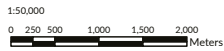
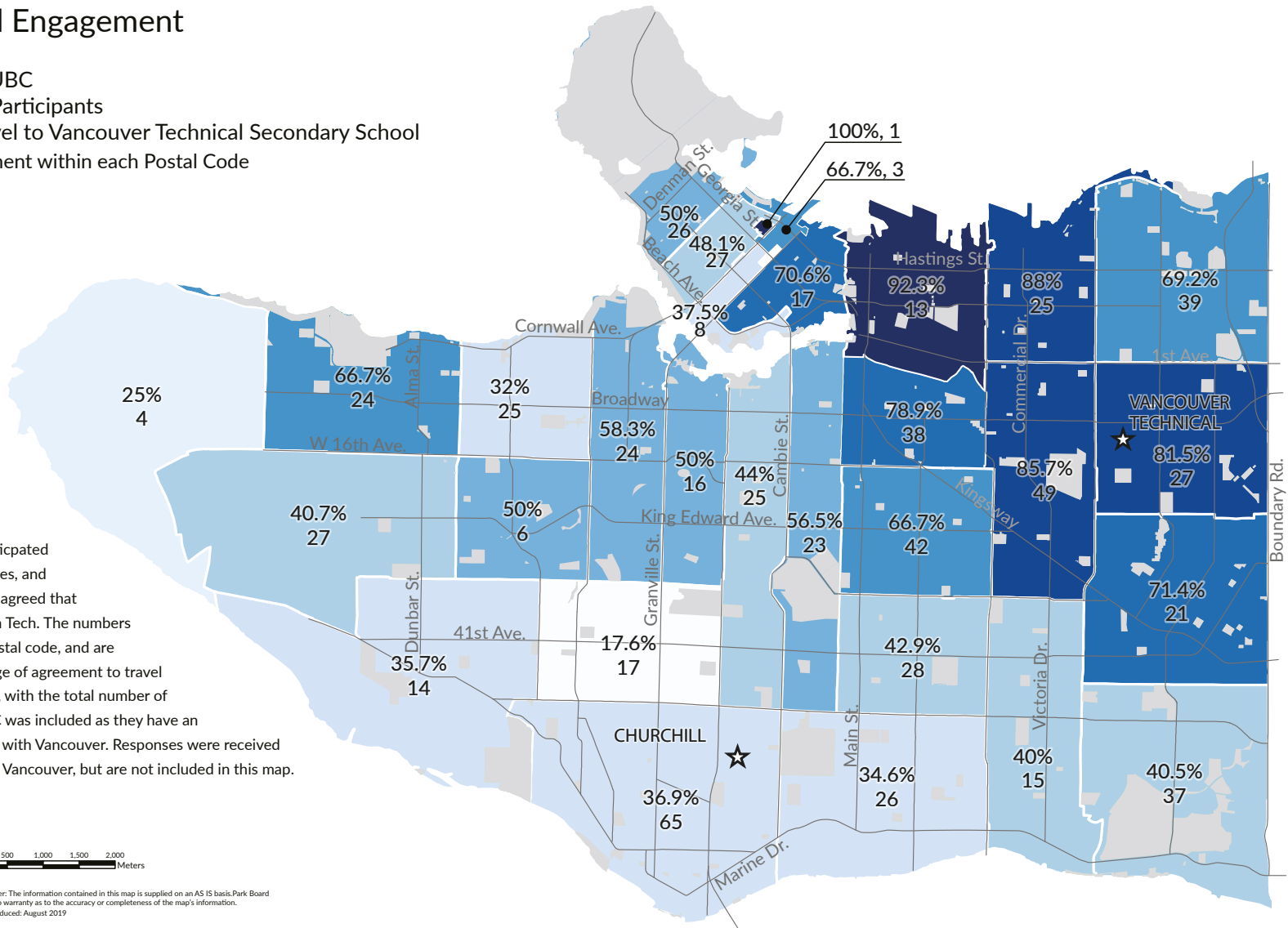
POTENTIAL FACILITY USE BY RESPONDENTS - GROUPED BY POSTAL CODE

Third Round Engagement

Vancouver and UBC
Track and Field Participants
Who Would Travel to Vancouver Technical Secondary School
Percent of Agreement within each Postal Code



This map shows the location of people who answered that they participated in track and field activities, and 'somewhat' or 'strongly' agreed that they would travel to Van Tech. The numbers were summarized by postal code, and are displayed as a percentage of agreement to travel within each postal code, with the total number of participants below. UBC was included as they have an overlapping postal code with Vancouver. Responses were received from outside the City of Vancouver, but are not included in this map.



Disclaimer: The information contained in this map is supplied on an AS IS basis. Park Board makes no warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of the map's information.
Date Produced: August 2019

ADVISORY GROUP

An Advisory Group made up of stakeholders was created through outreach to track and field related organizations representing youth, adults, seniors, persons with disabilities, hard to reach groups, schools, provincial organizations, casual users, competitive users, and related businesses. The goal was to bring together people with knowledge of community and user group needs, as well as expertise in areas such as the delivery and management of track and field programs, high level training and competition, technical sport and facility expertise, health and safety, and event hosting. Representatives from the Vancouver School Board also participated, as a key partner in future facility and program improvements.

The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group asked participants to:

- Provide input on the stakeholder and public engagement process and methods (i.e. are we reaching everyone who needs to be involved? Are we asking the right questions?)
- Enhance outreach and communication with stakeholders and the community at large
- Help the project team interpret engagement results
- Provide early input on policy directions and strategies
- Provide feedback on draft recommendations as the Track and Field Strategy is developed

Several members of the Advisory Group advocated for improvements at Camosun Park to meet the needs of current track and field athletes and clubs who practice at that location. Unfortunately, the site feasibility analysis determined that the site is not a good candidate for facility investments at this time because it is not owned by the Vancouver School Board or Park Board and long-term land tenure is uncertain.

The Advisory Group was influential throughout the process, particularly in helping the Park Board understand the current use of facilities and the facility needs of track and field teams and clubs.

Other key aspects of the Advisory Group input were:

- Information and technical expertise in terms of key aspects of facility design for track and field competitions from elementary school meets through to high level competitions.
- Defining the three categories of track facilities by providing technical knowledge and details on the training and competition needs of school teams, clubs, para-athletes, and high-level athletes.
- Helping with outreach to track and field participants
- Comments and refinement of the Round 2 and Round 3 survey questions
- Comments and refinement of the Vision and Principles

The Advisory Group met five times from fall 2018 through summer 2019.



FEEDBACK INFORMS STRATEGY

This Track and Field Strategy reflects the information and ideas shared with the project team through more than 3,921 interactions with the public through the three rounds of engagement. The table below highlights some of the input and how it influenced the work of the project team improving the strategy.

TABLE 3: ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK AND ACTIONS TAKEN

TOPIC	FEEDBACK RECEIVED	ACTION TAKEN	RESULT
Equitable access to facilities	Survey respondents want equitable access, and improved distribution of facilities was a common thread in the engagement responses and discussions.	The team investigated known user groups, school teams and the facilities they used. The first survey also revealed the facilities track and field participants used relative to where they live. Growth projections were also reviewed to determine areas where more residents are expected. These analyses help to understand the geography of demand of facilities and inform facility siting and investment recommendations.	Facility improvements were aligned with VanPlay equity analysis, and recommendations included largest investments in the short term in higher need areas at Vancouver Technical Secondary and Templeton Park as well as upgrades for Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary, the most highly-used facility in the City.
Supporting the full range of facility users	Survey respondents think that <u>all</u> track and field users should be supported through the strategy, not just athletes.	The team followed up and asked more questions of the public about what their priorities were for amenities, and what would make them feel welcome at track and field facilities.	Strategy updated to include policies supporting comfort and accessibility for all, prioritizing washrooms, water, inclusive signage, community gathering spaces and expanding programs for new users.
	Casual users worried that they would not have access or be welcomed at facilities with competition capabilities.	Considered how to help all users feel welcome and able to regularly use facilities.	Staff changed the categories from Competition, Training and Recreation to A, B and C and indicated through descriptions and visual cues that larger facilities encourage users of all abilities and interests.
Importance of Category B and C sites	The most important facility types identified by survey respondents were Category C (37%) and Category B (35%).	The team analyzed sites not suitable for a Category A facility to determine what improvements would most improve user experiences.	Recommendations directing capital funds refocused and distributed across Category A, B and C facilities
High priority improvements for Category C facility users	Top priority facility improvement for Category C and B facilities for users is better track surfacing.	The team identified a range of surfacing options to meet Category A, B and C needs, considering durability, cost and environmental impacts.	Developed an implementation plan that includes suggested upgrades for each track and field site that align with the priority improvements identified by survey respondents.

TABLE 3: ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK AND ACTIONS TAKEN (CONTINUED)

TOPIC	FEEDBACK RECEIVED	ACTION TAKEN	RESULT
High priority improvements for Category A facilities	<p>Competitive track meets are often limited by the number of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lanes for 60m, 80m, and 100m races ■ Long jump lanes and pits ■ High jump areas for both right and left approach 	<p>The team evaluated all potential Category A and B sites to fit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 100m straightaways on both sides of oval ■ Double ended or double wide long jump areas ■ High jump areas 	<p>Recommended minimum elements for all Category A and B sites now include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Maximum lanes for sprints up to 100m ■ Extra long jump space where possible ■ Dedicated or flexible high jump areas
Going beyond accessibility to reduce barriers to participation, specifically for para-athletes	<p>Para-athletes face many barriers to participation specific to track and field sports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Athletes require specialized equipment that is often large, heavy and difficult to transport. ■ Facility lay out or missing amenities can make it difficult or impossible to participate in certain events. ■ The goal is to have para-athletes able to fully participate in any track and field program or event 	<p>The team evaluated track and field category descriptions, and site design descriptions for competition and training sites to determine how they can better support para-athletes.</p>	<p>Updated recommendations now include more detailed information to support para-athletes, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ On-site storage dedicated to para-athletes ■ Tie down areas for wheelchairs at throwing events ■ Track surfacing that best accommodates wheelchairs ■ Design of track curvature to consider wheelchair movement
Supporting teams and clubs	<p>Teams and clubs need places to meet with members, support event hosting and foster socializing and community.</p>	<p>The team investigated opportunities and costs for increasing the size of ancillary buildings.</p>	<p>Proposed ancillary buildings increased from approximately 1600 sq. ft. to 3000 sq. ft. to support more equipment storage and meeting space.</p>
Facility upgrades at Camosun Park	<p>There was a desire for facility upgrades at Camosun Park to support the existing teams and clubs who use that location.</p>	<p>The team investigated potential for facility improvements at Camosun Park and identified a barrier of land tenure. The site is not owned by the Park Board or Vancouver School Board and the potential for renewal of the existing lease from the Province is uncertain.</p>	<p>No short term improvements at Camosun Park are included in the implementation plan at this time. This does not preclude future consideration of improvements at this site if and when land tenure issues are resolved.</p>
High-level competition hosting	<p>There was a desire to explore the potential for development of a facility that could host provincial, national, and international level competitions.</p>	<p>The team explored this topic with City staff leading sport hosting city-wide, which provided clarity regarding the current opportunities and challenges of hosting high-level sporting events, particularly in terms of partnerships with UBC, facility requirements, funding models, and current priorities.</p>	<p>The conclusion was that a purpose-built track and field facility capable of hosting high-level competitions was not feasible at any of the existing track and field locations, and public feedback indicated that facilities for the local community were the highest priority. Recommended that track and field events be considered as part of future investigations into a potential flexible, multi-sport outdoor event space or stadium.</p>



Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School (Josef Hanus/Shutterstock)

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

VISION

Vancouver's exceptional track and field facilities and activities attract and welcome all levels of track and field users, while helping Vancouver athletes grow to their fullest potential.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

We identified core values that are key to guiding strategic themes, recommendations and action items.



Provide Equitable Access

Aim for equitable distribution and access to quality facilities for all Vancouverites.



Strengthen Partnerships

Work together with key school and community groups to support track and field programs and compatible activities.



Support the Growth of Track & Field in Vancouver

Increase participation in the full range of track and field sports from grassroots to competitive and foster a culture of inclusiveness through open access for people of all abilities.



Complement Citywide Initiatives and Recreation Strategies

Complement and align with other city-wide strategies and initiatives.



Inspire All Athletes

Attract and host events to showcase track and field athletic participation and achievement.



Celebrate the Past & Foster the Future

Celebrate the legacy of track and field accomplishment and foster the aspirations of current and future athletes.

STRATEGIC THEMES

1. DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE
2. ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION
3. PROGRAMMING AND COOPERATION
4. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

Vancouver has a rich history in track and field, host to the 1954 Empire Games and the Miracle Mile and home to notable athletes including Lynn & Percy Williams, Barbara Howard, Harry Jerome and Thelma Wright. Many inspiring local athletes and moments in athletics (track and field) continue to emerge as it remains a popular pursuit at all levels from the recreational walkers and joggers to the serious, competitive athletes.

"The Miracle Mile"....On August 7, 1954 during the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Vancouver, B.C., England's Roger Bannister and Australian John Landy met for the first time at the newly constructed Empire Stadium to run the one-mile race in under four minutes.

<http://www.miraclemile1954.com/>



RECOMMENDATIONS

The Vision and Guiding Principles builds from the existing policy framework of the Park Board and City of Vancouver described earlier in this document. They set the direction for the Track and Field Strategy. The 20 more specific and action-oriented recommendations are organized under four themes (design and infrastructure, access and participation, programming and cooperation and management and operations) to help provide clarity to and alignment of Park Board, City and Vancouver School Board as well as valuable stakeholders and users.

1. DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Plan, design or improve facilities to best support designated programs, and the needs of users as appropriate for the site.

1.1 Establish three track and field facility classifications; Category A, B and C (Table 4: Track and Field Facility Classifications)

- a. Category C – Facilities supporting leisure activity for running, walking, fitness, cross-training, school fitness classes and informal athletic/para-athletic training. Facilities are generally non-reservable. Includes a track of 6-lanes or less with a low impact surface where possible. Other amenities may include fitness equipment, benches, and a water fountain.
- b. Category B - Includes all uses and amenities of a Category C facility as well as a multi-purpose sport/para-sport training and small event hosting venue with priority given to track and field training and local competitions. Facilities include a minimum six-lane rubberized, lit track and as many core amenities (long jump and high jump areas) and desired amenities (e.g. change rooms, communications systems) as possible. The 'B' facilities will align with the IAAF (International Association of Athletics Federations) Category V facility.
- c. Category A - Includes all uses and amenities of Category B and C facilities as well as a multi-purpose sport/para-sport training and large event hosting venue with priority given to track and field training and competitions. It will include an 8-lane rubberized, lit track, space for spectator seating, and all core amenities (e.g. equipment storage space, timing, announcement and communication systems) and as many desired amenities (e.g. serviced for broadcast capabilities) as possible. The 'A' facilities will align with the IAAF Category III facility.



RECOMMENDATIONS

DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE (CONTINUED)

TABLE 4: TRACK AND FIELD FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS







FACILITY	TRACK STANDARD	FIELD SPORTS:	FACILITY USE & USERS:	SEATING:	AMENITIES:
 CATEGORY C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can include non-standard track shapes and loops Rubber or asphalt surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard long/triple jump areas where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not reservable Serves local leisure users Informal running, walking, athletics, fitness, cross-training, and leisure activities Related recreational programs School fitness activities and training Informal para-athletic training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not required 	<p>Where Possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washrooms Facility lighting Compatible amenities like climbing wall, stairs, parkour, outdoor fitness equipment, play areas
 CATEGORY B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 lanes Standard track shape and distance Rubberized surfacing to suit track use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumping areas: Long/triple jump, high jump, steeplechase and pole vault (if possible) Throwing (if possible): Javelin, hammer, discus, shot-put Field event areas should be located together at track site, where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservable facility Track+field athletic and para-athletic training School training and fitness activities Destination facility for school track+field events Serves competitive athletes (individuals, teams, clubs) within the larger community, nearby schools, user groups, residents active in track+field and leisure users in related activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideally accommodates permanent or temporary seats 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washrooms Facility lighting <p>Where Possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adjacent indoor facilities with change rooms and limited storage space Timing, public announcement and communication systems Space for warm up, weight training, event admin and staging is desirable
 CATEGORY A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8-lane track, international standard Rubberized surfacing to international standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumping: Long/triple jump, high jump, steeplechase, hurdles and pole vault Throwing: Javelin, hammer, discus, shot-put Located on-site or adjacent to track 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reservable facility with priority for track+field training and competition Competitive track+field athletic and para-athletic events and training Destination venue for high-level athletic and use with priority for track+field use Serves competitive athletes (individuals, teams, clubs) within the larger community and local leisure users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adequately accommodates spectator capacity for provincial sport events 	<p>Required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washrooms, change rooms and equipment storage Facility lighting, timing, public announcement and communication systems <p>Where Possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to indoor facilities for warming up, weight training, event staging and administration Serviced for broadcast capabilities

TABLE 4: TRACK AND FIELD FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

SITE PROGRAM & POTENTIAL:	TRANSPORTATION FRIENDLY:	SUPPORT AMENITY PROXIMITY:	DISTRIBUTION EQUITY:	FACILITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Layout can vary to accommodate site conditions or complement other fitness training or activities ■ Universally accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Easily accessed by walking ■ Connected to bike routes, if possible ■ Parking optional and location dependent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Multi-functional facility, intended to accommodate a variety of associated or complementary recreational and leisure activities ■ Located close to community facilities or amenities to support multi-use, training and complementary activities or programs, if possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sites selected strategically to provide equitable access for all users city-wide. 	 CATEGORY C
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meets, or can be upgraded to meet, technical standards for competitive athletic and para-athletic training and to host school athletic events ■ Site has some capacity to accommodate temporary events facilities and infrastructure required to support a high-level, large scale athletic and sports event: first aid, officials' stations, doping facility, queuing ■ Universally accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Easily accessible by transit, cycling, and walking ■ Consideration for parking for events where possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ideally located close to community centres, schools, or amenities to access indoor facilities for training, event staging and complementary activities or programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Sites selected strategically to provide equitable access for all users city-wide. 	 CATEGORY B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Meets, or can be upgraded to meet, technical standards for international athletic and para-athletic competition ■ Site has capacity to accommodate temporary events facilities and infrastructure required to support high-level, large scale athletic and sports event: first aid, officials' stations, doping facility, queuing ■ Universally accessible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Easily accessible by various modes of transportation: walking, cycling, transit, car ■ Consideration for parking that coincides with seating capacity ■ Located for easy access for all types of local and non-local users and visitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Optimally located close to community centres, schools, or amenities to access indoor facilities for event staging and administration, training, and other complementary activities or programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Site(s) selected strategically to allow for easy access for all users city-wide 	 CATEGORY A

RECOMMENDATIONS

DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE (CONTINUED)

FACILITY INNOVATIONS AND IDEAS



Image from www.Keingart.com

Athletics Exploratorium | Odense, Denmark
Designer: Keingart



Image from www.ArchDaily.com

3D Track | Alicante, Spain
Designer: Subarquitectura

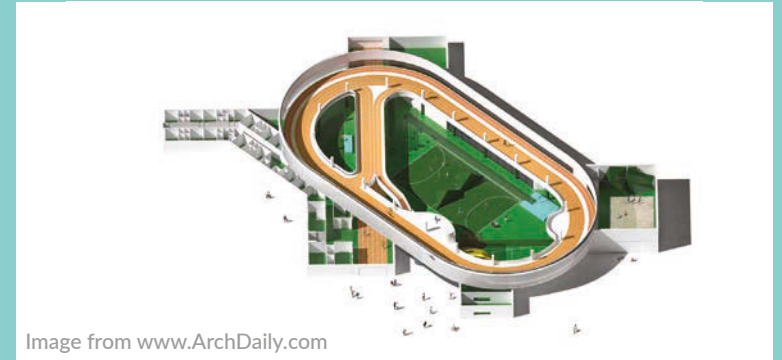


Image from www.ArchDaily.com

Plug and Play Arena | Randers, Denmark
Designer: CEBRA



Image from <https://inhabitat.com/>

Tiantai No.2 Primary School | Zhejiang, China
Designer: LYCS Architecture

DESIGN AND INFRASTRUCTURE (CONTINUED)

1.2 Classify all track and field locations based on the classification categories A, B and C (Table 4: Track and Field Facility Classifications)

- a. Classify the 14 existing sites of track and field facilities in Vancouver and identify any service gaps and opportunities for future facilities to meet existing or future needs.
- b. Develop priorities for improving facilities to classification standards based on alignment with other City and Park Board projects, collaboration with the Vancouver School Board, input from residents and available resources.

1.3 Consider a broad range of needs in the design of all track and field facilities aiming for facilities that are practical, flexible, adaptable, multi-functional, and low maintenance.

- a. Develop facilities that can accommodate training and events from school-aged children to masters and seniors, and adaptive sports.
- b. Plan, design and construct all facilities to consider opportunities and servicing for multi-use, including other sports and community.

1.4 Develop technical design standards to accommodate multi-use and programming.

- a. Align with the Vancouver School Board curriculum and extracurricular programs.
- b. Incorporate emergency, post-disaster response and staging requirements.
- c. Adopt IAAF Technical Manual for requirements standard for Category A and B facilities.



CASE STUDY: SCOTTISH ATHLETICS FACILITIES STRATEGY (2015)

In 2015 Scottish Athletics, the national governing body for athletics in Scotland, finalized a Facilities Strategy. Key proposals (recommendations) emanating from the Strategy included:

- The long-term aspiration of developing Compact Athletics Facilities for athletics in all secondary schools in Scotland, allied with jogging / recreational running loops at schools
- Identifying the need for improved maintenance and upkeep of existing facilities with leadership, and training support provided by the governing body
- Recognition of the benefits of integrated synthetic infields within community track and field facilities and the clear management requirements of such combined facilities

Similar to the Vancouver Track and Field Strategy, a foundational aspect of the Strategy was the development of a classification system to help create standards for infrastructure and support future planning.⁷

⁷ <https://www.scottishathletics.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Scottishathletics-Facility-Strategy-Web-Version-Nov-2015.pdf>

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

Track and field infrastructure investments need to benefit residents across Vancouver, and support fairness, equity, and access for all.

2.1 Provide a combination of Category A, B and C facilities that meet the needs of users across Vancouver.

Consider incorporating more low impact surfacing, looping trails and pathways, and flexible Run, Jump, Throw, Wheel space when planning for new and renewed parks to augment Category C track and field facilities that align with the early and late stages of the Long-Term Development in Sport and Physical Activity.

- a. Work towards providing 1.5 Category B facilities for every 100,000 residents of Vancouver by 2040.
- b. Aim for balanced distribution of Category A and B facilities, in all four quadrants of the city.

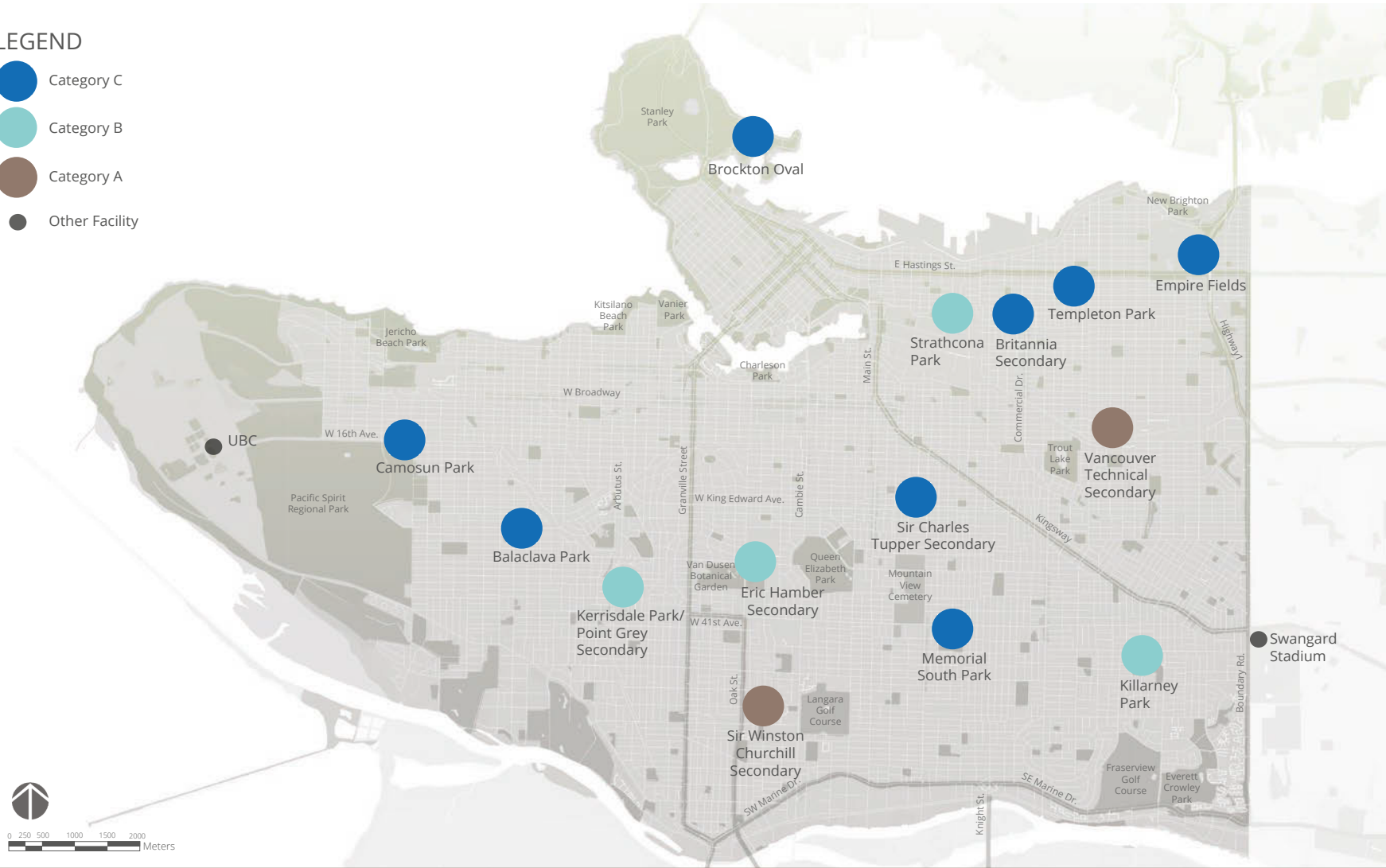


ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION (CONTINUED)

The Park Board will adopt the following three categories for each of the 14 existing track and field facilities, as well as future facilities, in Vancouver

LEGEND

- Category C
- Category B
- Category A
- Other Facility



TRACK AND FIELD FACILITY CLASSIFICATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

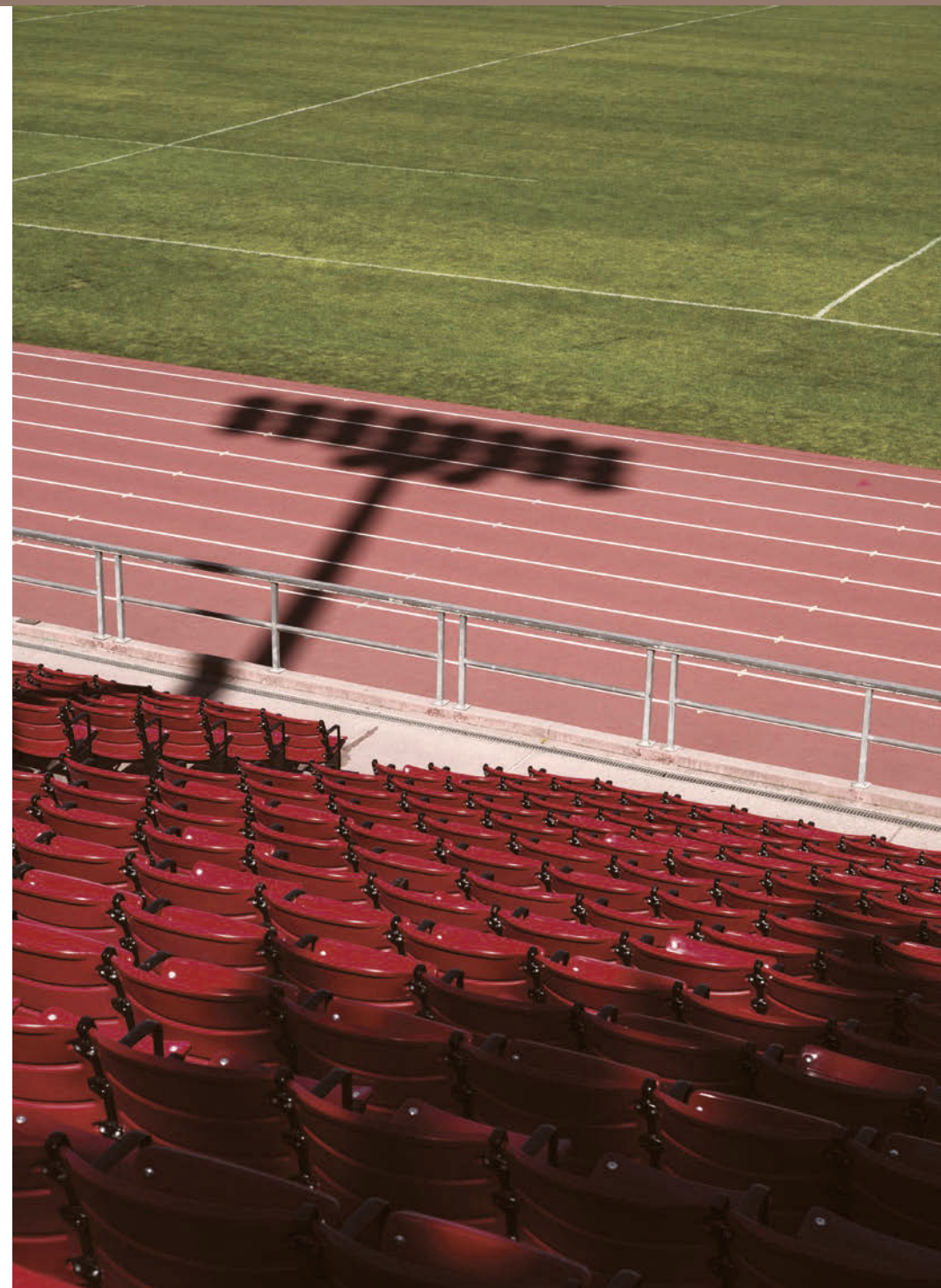
ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION (CONTINUED)

2.2 Investigate future opportunities to develop a flexible, multi-sport outdoor event space or stadium that could accommodate large track and field events.

2.3 Investigate future opportunities to develop an indoor track facility to support year-round training, competitions, events and programs.

2.4 Assess site options for developing Track and Field Category A and B facilities based on primary criteria.

- a. Land availability and size
 - Availability of buildable area based on land tenure
 - Availability to develop sites based on other City, VSB and Park Board initiatives
 - Available space for a minimum a six-lane track
- b. Potential for programming
 - Ability to fit 6 to 8 lane track, field events, support amenities and potential for spectator seating and/or event hosting
- c. Location synergies with other facilities
 - Location has adjacent facilities and amenities (e.g. other sport/recreation facilities, existing parking, washroom/change facilities, food and beverage services etc.) such as schools or community centres and commercial areas
- d. Site accessibility
 - Location can be accessed by active transportation routes and public transportation
- e. Capital cost
 - Relative investment to get the site ready to build a track and field facility (e.g. earthworks)



ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION (CONTINUED)

2.5 Prioritize Track and Field capital investments at Category A and B facilities based on secondary criteria.

- a. Demand and demonstrated needs
 - Addresses high demand or use in area (residents, schools and clubs)
 - Fills current service gap or improves service for future growth in neighbourhood/area
 - Develops or revitalizes physical elements and/or programming
- b. Equal geographic distribution
 - Improves access to recreational facilities in an underserved neighbourhood/area of the City, as guided by VanPlay's Equity Initiative Zones.
 - Improves access and distribution of facilities throughout the City
 - Bridges service gaps of Park Board and school facilities
- c. Health and Safety
 - Addresses design and maintenance issues that cause a significant health and safety risk for users



RECOMMENDATIONS

ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION (CONTINUED)

2.6 Consider and address the following topics during design and construction of new or renewed facilities:

- a. Site development or environmental encumbrances
 - Servicing requirements (e.g. water or sewer lines)
 - Presence of natural or riparian areas, or wildlife habitat
 - Potential environmental hazards or impacts
- b. Program displacement
 - Avoid significant changes to existing services, programs or amenities where possible
 - Aim to have resulting changes increase total public benefits
- c. Land use compatibility
 - Mitigate negative impacts on neighbouring land uses where possible

2.7 Track and Field programs and facilities in Vancouver will be inclusive and will increase opportunities for adaptive sport users.

- a. Ensure facilities and programs create safe, inclusive, and welcoming spaces for all, including people of all ages and genders, LGBTQI2S (Gender and Sexually Diverse Community) individuals and persons with disabilities
- b. Ensure that the needs of adaptive users are considered as facilities are developed and upgraded
- c. Engage in ongoing dialogue with stakeholders, specifically those from underrepresented groups such as adaptive sports, to identify creative and meaningful solutions to reduce barriers to access and encourage participation





3. PROGRAMMING AND COOPERATION

Working with collaborators to increase participation in track and field and related athletic activities can help foster increased levels of wellness and maximize facility utilization.

3.1 Collaborate with clubs and other organizations to help increase programming for all levels of track and field participation.

- a. Provide or support new and entry level outdoor programming that aligns with the Long-Term Development in Sport and Physical Activity program and commitment
- b. Coordinate activities and initiatives between the Park Board, VSB and track and field clubs to maximize participation and enjoyment by all residents
- c. Share information and encourage clubs and schools to apply for subsidy and grant programs and opportunities to help reduce financial barriers to participation (e.g. KidSport, JumpStart, Moresports, Harry Jerome Outreach Society)
- d. Work with the VSB to support where feasible, the development of their elementary and high school track and field programs

3.2 Work with organized sport groups through the Vancouver Field Sports Federation to maintain ongoing input into facility maintenance and operations activities.

3.3 Foster collaborative relationships with neighbouring municipalities and institutions (e.g. City of Burnaby, City of Richmond, UBC, and private schools) for event hosting and collaborative programming where appropriate.

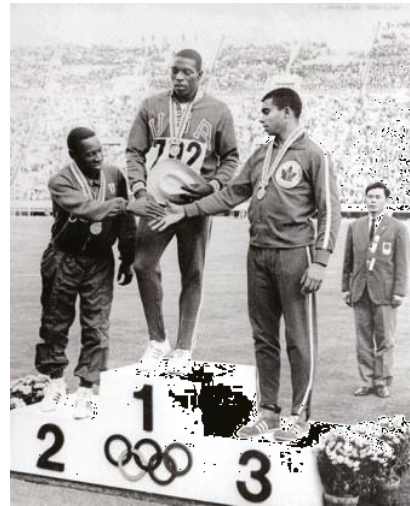


RECOMMENDATIONS

PROGRAMMING AND COOPERATION (CONTINUED)

3.4 Celebrate Vancouver's rich track and field history and build on that inspiration to engage Vancouver's athletes, coaches, officials, sports builders and supporters.

- Highlight and recognize the rich history and culture of track and field sports in Vancouver and BC as part of new and upgraded facilities, event hosting and programming (e.g. public art, signage, naming, branding).
- Leverage local success stories and history to encourage participation and support promotional activities.
- Build Vancouver's Track and Field reputation as a sporting city whose success is built on the inclusiveness, accessibility and availability of its facilities and programs.



⁸<https://athletics.ca/get-involved/rjtw/>

CASE STUDY: THE RUN JUMP THROW WHEEL PROGRAM

The Run Jump Throw Wheel is a national program developed by Athletics Canada that teaches fundamental movement skills and develops physical literacy. Using track and field inspired games, activities and skill challenges lead by instructors specifically trained to teach the fundamentals of running, jumping, throwing and wheeling (for children in wheelchairs). The program has been designed to be implemented by an teacher, sport club, or community recreation leader and remains a best practice example of implementing quality physical literacy programming that can also provide a pathway to future Track and Field participation.⁸



4. MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS

Optimizing management and operations can help maximize the lifespan of track and field infrastructure in Vancouver, make the best use of available space, and help ensure positive user experiences.

4.1 Consistent with other Sport Facility Allocation and Management Policies, develop a Track and Field Allocation and Management Policy in consultation with the Vancouver School Board, programmers, track and field clubs, parks operations, sport hosting and other stakeholders.

- a. Seek input from track and field users, interested sport groups and stakeholders to develop the allocation policy.
- b. The Allocation Policy should aim to direct transparent and equitable allocations based on demonstrated need and a clear rationale.

4.2 Develop formal shared-use agreements between the Vancouver School Board and the Park Board at shared-use Category A and B facilities that outlines important details such as: cost sharing, facility access, schedules, equipment, storage and maintenance.



CASE STUDY: EFFORTS TO BUILD INCREASED COLLABORATION BETWEEN RECREATION AND SPORT

While the numerous synergies and overlaps between “recreation” and “sport” are obvious to many, perceptions of silos and a lack of collaboration have historically existed. Over the past decade, significant efforts have been made provincially and nationally to break down barriers and create better working relationships between public sector recreation providers and sport organizations. These efforts and initiatives have included:

- The British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association creation of a task group to look at how overall collaboration between municipal recreation and sport may be improved.
- The commissioning of the discussion paper *Partnering ‘Recreation’ with ‘Sport’ Through Canadian Sport for Life* by Canadian Sport for Life
- The recognition of sport in the Framework for *Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing*
- The development of *A Common Vision for Increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Sedentary Living in Canada: Let’s Get Moving* to increase synergies and collaborations among the recreation, sport, and leisure sectors in Canada

RECOMMENDATIONS

MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

4.3 Develop long-term capital maintenance and renewal plans for new or upgraded Category A and B facilities that incorporate best management practices and life-cycle planning for infrastructure renewal or replacement to ensure longevity of track and field facilities.

- a. Align with VPB and VSB Asset Management Programs
- b. Create on-site staff positions to manage daily equipment set up and take down, access control, maintenance and grooming/cleaning of the track, turf and buildings at Category A facilities. At Category B facilities, identify the additional staff resources necessary to ensure facility maintenance, grooming and customer service needs are met.
- c. Include specialized equipment required for grooming, cleaning and repairing the track, turf and facility in long-term and short-term planning.
- d. Create annual maintenance and operating plans and budgets for Category A, and B facilities based on long-term plans.

4.4 Allocate appropriate resources to fund the long-term capital maintenance and renewal plans, as well as annual budgets to properly manage Category A and B facilities and ensure efficient and responsible long-term viability of facilities. This should include the day to day access, operations, programming, customer engagement, IT/AV, equipment management, and monitoring use.

4.5 Ensure comprehensive safety and security requirements and specification are incorporated into to all Facility-Use Agreements.

4.6 Ensure better tracking and collection of user information (frequency, demand, etc.) to help match users, programs and facilities optimizing best practices for managing and planning programs, providing infrastructure, responding to demand and fine-tuning service levels, expectations and user experience.

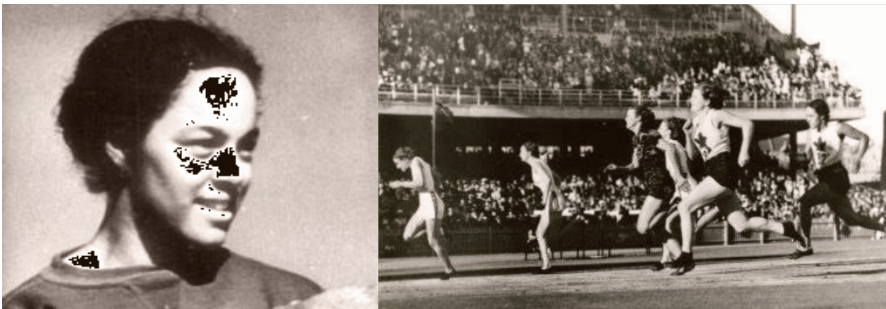


CASE STUDY: FACILITY ALLOCATIONS

Sport for Life recommends a number of principles and practices for the allocation of public facilities to sport groups. These principles and practices are aligned with the fundamentals of the Long-Term Athlete Development framework.

- Allocation practices are based on “standards of play” principles in terms of the time and space required by each group.
- Allocation policies are transparent and reviewed with the groups.
- Allocation is not done by tradition, but rather on actual requirements of all groups, including the needs of emerging sports.
- Seasonal allocation meetings are held with common users groups to review their requests and try to achieve consensus on sharing available spaces and times.
- As seasons progress, groups are encouraged to be flexible in the reallocation of spaces with other groups when no longer needed, either temporarily or for longer periods.
- User fees and subsidies need to reflect community taxpayer support, and the rationale should be shared with sport organizations.

VANCOUVER ATHLETES



Athlete, educator and community leader, Barbara Howard (1921 - 2017) born and raised in Vancouver's eastside was the first black female athlete to represent Canada in international competition. In 1948, when most ethnic minorities were barred from teaching, Barbara became the first person of colour to be hired as an educator by the Vancouver School Board, teaching physical education at Lord Strathcona Elementary School.⁹

"In 1938, when I was 17, I broke the British Empire record for the 100-yard dash, so I was invited to compete in the British Empire Games in Sydney, Australia."¹⁰

Barbara ran a 100 yard sprint in 11.2 seconds to qualify for the British Empire Games, a time that beat the games' record by a tenth of a second. She won silver and bronze medals in relays at those games. She looked forward to the 1940 Summer Games in Tokyo, but the Second World War derailed the Olympics for the next decade and ended Barbara's running career.

Barbara earned a Bachelor of Education at UBC and taught at Hastings, Henry Hudson, Lord Strathcona and Trafalgar elementary schools in a career spanning more than 40 years. At Trafalgar, Barbara worked with brilliant, but underperforming kids. "The child," Barbara argued, "is more important than the curriculum."

In 2010, Barbara was recognized by the Vancouver Park Board with a Remarkable Women Award for "her passionate dedication to inspire others to make a positive difference in their community." She was inducted into both the Burnaby Sports Hall of Fame and the BC Sports Hall of Fame, and in 2013, received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. In 2015, she was welcomed as one of "The Legends" in the Canada Sports Hall of Fame.¹¹



Harry Winston Jerome (1940 - 1982), was a talented multi-sport athlete who overcame racial and economic hardships to become one of the top sprinters of his time and one of the best athletes ever to represent Canada.¹²

He grew up in North Vancouver, countered racial prejudice by excelling as an athlete. He was one of the fastest men in the world for nearly a decade. He equaled and set numerous Canadian sprint records, as well as several world records. He represented Canada in three Olympic Summer Games (1960, 1964, and 1968), winning a bronze medal in the 100 meter sprint in 1964.¹³

He entered the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame in 1966, Canada's Amateur Athletic Hall of Fame in 1967, was invested with the Order of Canada in 1970, was inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame in 1971 and declared B.C.'s Athlete of the Century.¹⁴

After retirement, Jerome taught, consulted for Sport Canada and travelled Canada inspiring youngsters to try track and field sports.¹⁴

He was a tireless promoter of sports among young people.¹⁵

⁹ <https://bcblackhistory.ca/>

¹⁰ <http://seniorsstories.vcn.bc.ca/2014/10/31/sprinter-barbara-howard-east-van-pe-teacher-2/>

¹¹ <https://trekmagazine.alumni.ubc.ca/2017/spring-2017/departments/in-memoriam/barbara-howard/>

¹² Jerome Outreach Society - <https://www.harryjerome.com/history/jerome-outreach-society>

¹³ The Vancouver Sun, 2017 - <https://www.harryjerome.com/history/jerome-outreach-society>

¹⁴ <http://kentakpage.com/harry-winston-jerome-never-give-up/>

¹⁵ <https://bcblackhistory.ca/harry-jerome/>





HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO IT?

The Park Board and Vancouver School Board have a history of sharing land and facilities to support communities. Agreements for existing facilities outline terms for allocation of hours for public and for school use, provide guides for cost sharing for capital expenditures, outline maintenance responsibilities and costs, and provide details on storage, public access, etc. New agreements for track and field facilities on Vancouver School Board property funded in part or whole by the Park Board will be a key step in implementing this strategy.

VANCOUVER PARK BOARD AND VANCOUVER SCHOOL BOARD COLLABORATION



AGREEMENTS WOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Vision and goals for the facility
- Role clarification
- Parameters of school and public use
- Staffing, including supervision, programming, operations, maintenance
- Operation and maintenance standards and deliverables
- Short and long-term capital responsibilities and funding options
- Insurance, liability, conflict resolution, etc.

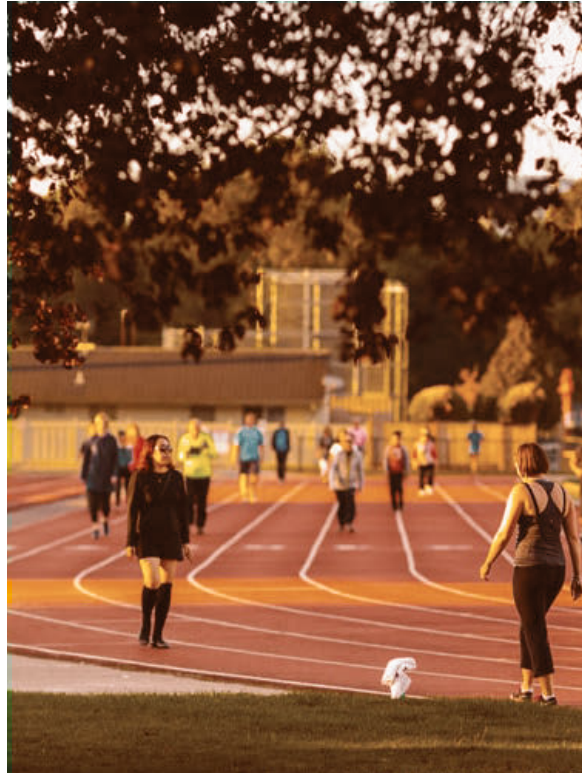


COOPERATION WITH USER GROUPS

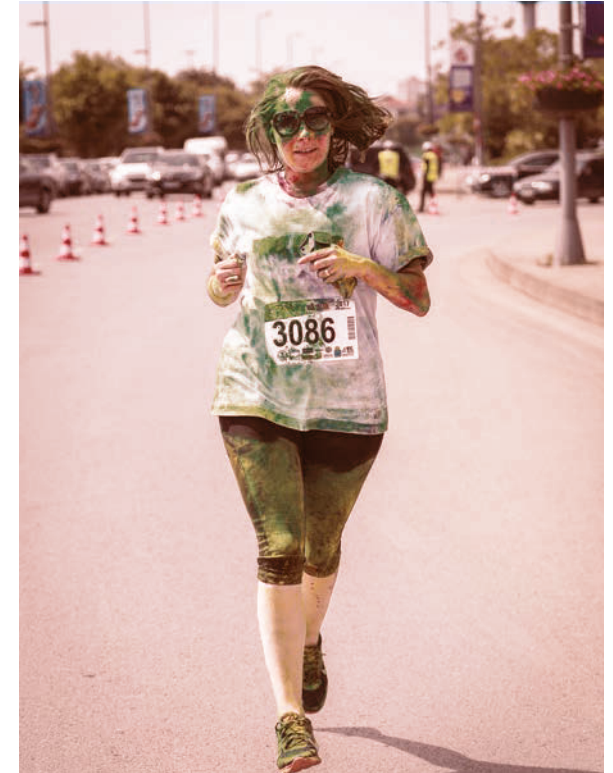
The Park Board will work with track and field user groups, and field sport organizations, to develop clear and transparent allocation processes which are consistent with Park Board values, user group values and existing facility allocation processes.



The Park Board will expect that these representative organizations are aligned with the Long Term Development for Sport and Physical Recreation model, True Sport principles and that they have fully developed Codes of Conduct and other compatible principles of operation. The Park Board relies on the track and field community to educate and monitor users on track and field etiquette, and to support facility care and cleanliness.



The Park Board relies on advisory groups such as the Vancouver Field Sport Federation (who are track and field and field sport representatives) to provide ongoing feedback and communication and to inform decisions for future development and redevelopment of facilities and amenities that support both the community and user interests.



IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The plan will guide growth and reinvestment in the existing facility infrastructure to help support current and future Vancouver track and field program needs over the next 10 years. The implementation plan describes phasing improvements to site facilities to achieve priority goals and objectives. The realization of this long-term vision will occur incrementally. Ongoing improvement priorities will be assessed to respond to emerging opportunities.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

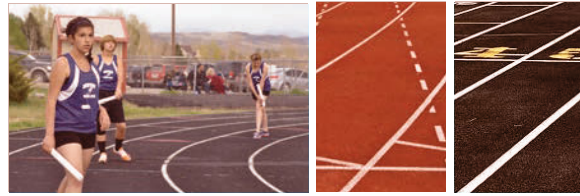
Key improvements are outlined for existing track and field facilities to meet the minimum requirements as a designated Category A, B or C facility type as defined earlier under the Design and Infrastructure section.



CATEGORY C FACILITY

A community amenity for casual fitness and informal recreation activities with a track or loop walking surface and often located near other compatible recreation facilities and amenities.

- Low Impact Surfacing
- Long Jump Pits
- Wayfinding & Signage
- Site Furnishings



CATEGORY B FACILITY

A venue for athletic training that can host local events and competitions. It has a rubberized track, jumping areas, and in some cases, throwing areas.

All Category C Amenities, Plus:

- 6 marked lanes (Natural Grass and Synthetic Turf Infield)
- Jumping and Throwing Event Space
- Lighting
- Washrooms
- Storage
- Space for Temporary Spectator Seating
- Supporting para-athletes:
 - On-site storage
 - Tie down areas for wheelchairs
 - Track surfacing that best accommodates wheelchairs
 - Design of track curvature to consider wheelchair movement



CATEGORY A FACILITY

A venue for athletic and para-athletic training that can host high-level competitions. It includes an 8-lane rubberized track built to international standards, with jumping and throwing areas, and spectator seating.

All Category B & C Amenities, Plus:

- Expansion to 8 Lanes (Natural Grass or Artificial Turf Infield)
- Full Jumping and Throwing Event Space
- Spectator Seating
- Change rooms
- Ancillary Building Space

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Priority A projects will be considered for implementation with funding currently allocated. Ongoing priorities will be re-evaluated and assessed against changing facility status, planning priorities, and as opportunities emerge to partner with other capital improvement projects or development initiatives to take advantage of efficiencies and concurrences. These estimates represent costing using current (2019) information and will be re-assessed during capital planning and budgeting cycles to ensure costing is updated to keep pace with projected cost escalation. Site servicing, development related off-site improvements, soft costs and contingencies are not included in the estimates below.

TABLE 5: PRIORITIZATION OF IMPROVEMENTS

PRIORITY	FACILITY	CATEGORY	PRIORITY IMPROVEMENTS	SUBTOTAL (2019 DOLLARS) CLASS D COST ESTIMATE
A	Vancouver Technical Secondary School	A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expand to 8 lane track with rubberized surface; natural grass infield Jump (long, triple, high, hurdle, steeplechase, pole vault) Throws: javelin, hammer, discus, shot-put Spectator seating Facility lighting Field House with washrooms, changerooms, meeting space, equipment storage (\$3M from different funding source) Wayfinding and signage Site furnishings 	\$6-7M
	Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School	B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resurface existing 6-lane track, ex. Synthetic turf infield Jumps: long, triple, hurdles; no high, steeplechase or pole vault Throws: javelin, hammer, discus, shot-put Space and configuration for temporary seating Washrooms Equipment storage Wayfinding and signage Site Furnishings 	\$3-4M
	Templeton Park*	C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resurface existing track Update long jump Wayfinding and signage Site furnishings 	\$1-2M
B	Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School*	A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$7-8M
	Kerrisdale Park/Point Grey Secondary School	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lighting 	\$750 000 - 1M
	Memorial South Park	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$1-2M
	Balaclava Park	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$1-2M
C	Strathcona Park*	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$5-6M
	Killarney Park*	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$5-6M
	Britannia Secondary School*	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$1-2M
D	Eric Hamber Secondary School*	B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$6-8M
	Empire Fields	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$100,000
	Sir Charles Tupper Secondary School	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	\$1-2M
The future for the following sites is uncertain, however, if future decisions support maintaining a track facility at these locations, a review and reprioritization of potential improvements that align with the goals of the Track and Field Strategy will be completed.				
	Brockton Oval Stanley Park	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	
	Camosun Park	C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category requirements 	

* Under review as part of other planning studies

A – 2019-2022 Capital Plan; B, C and D will support requests for the 2023-2026 and 2027-2030 Capital Plans and beyond. Refer to Appendix A for more information.

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CONTINUED)

PROPOSED COMPETITIVE FACILITY CONCEPT - VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY

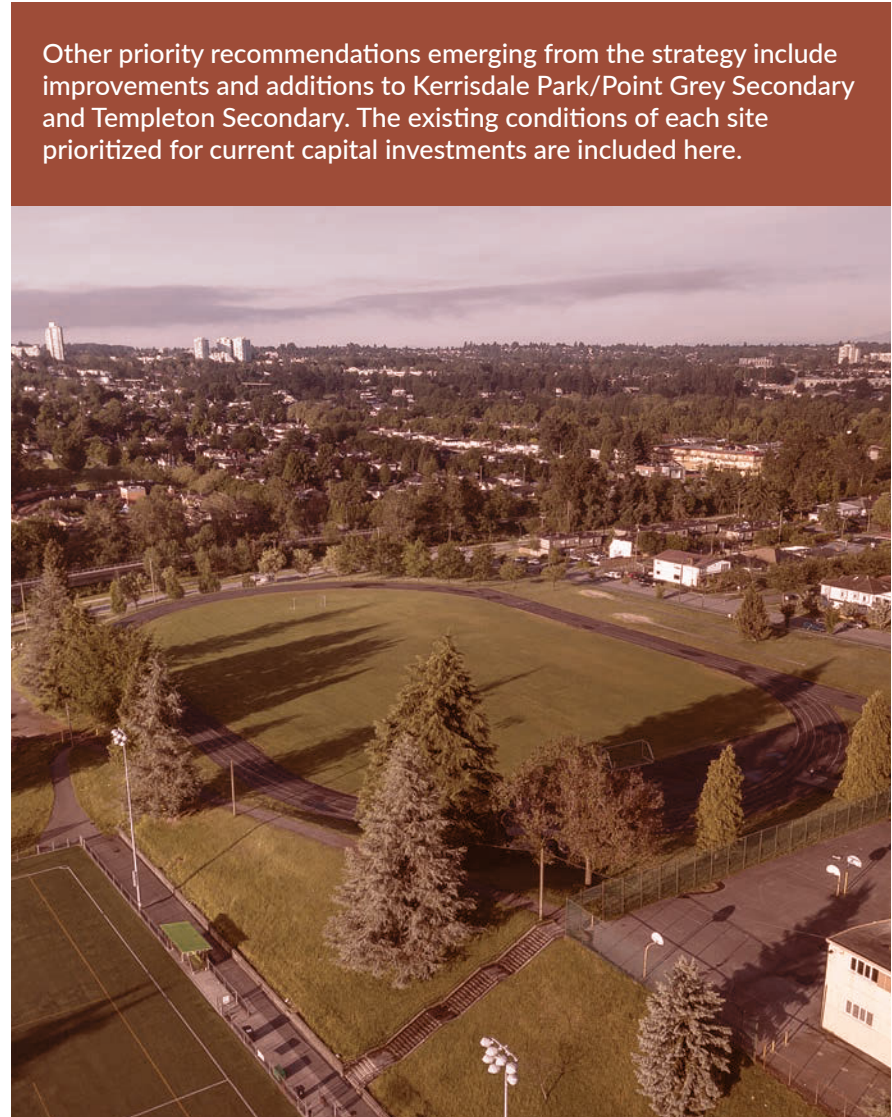
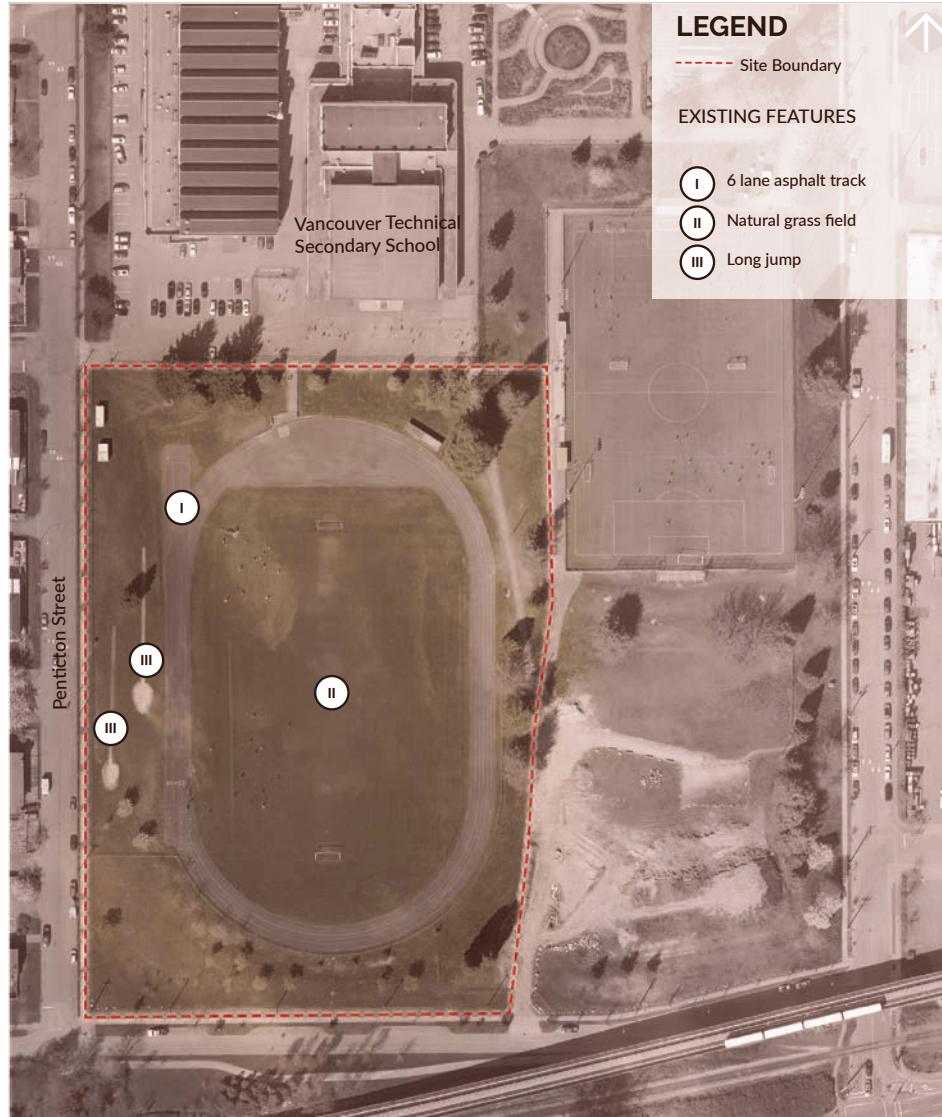
The following schematic image illustrates the proposed improvements for funding from the current capital plan. The approval process for facility upgrades will require at least three steps, the Board will decide on the improvement locations through the Track and Field Strategy, then later receive the concept design recommendations and finally a request for contract award approvals. At school sites, the projects will also be subject to Vancouver School Board approval.

Through the process of evaluating the existing sites, few emerged as options for development of a Category A facility. The Vancouver Technical Secondary School location was selected as a priority project to be completed within the ten year strategy timeline. The conceptual design illustrates the proposed improvements that will provide Vancouver with a much-anticipated venue that will help address the needs of existing clubs, schools and casual users.



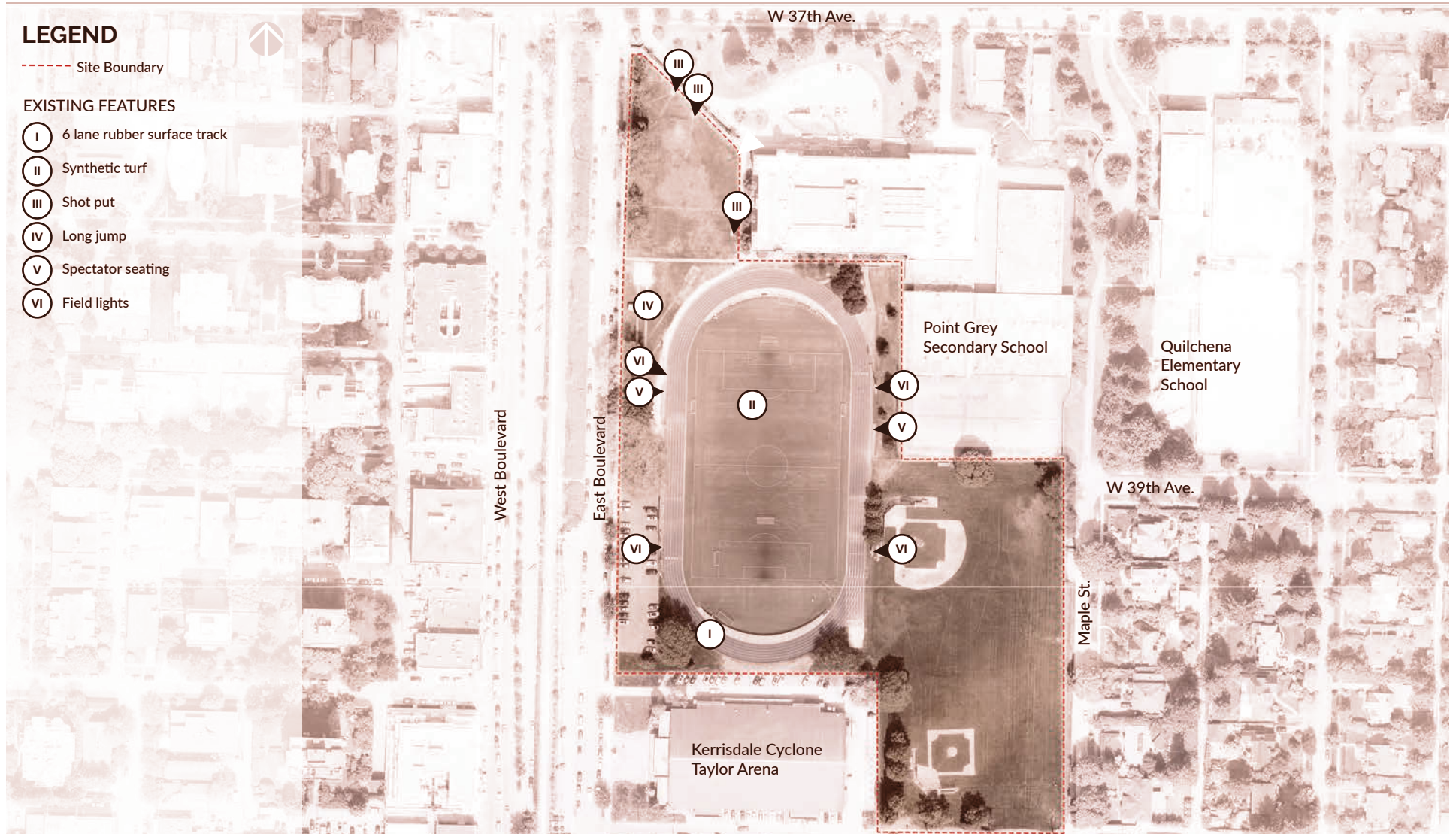
EXISTING CONDITIONS

EXISTING CONDITIONS - VANCOUVER TECHNICAL SECONDARY

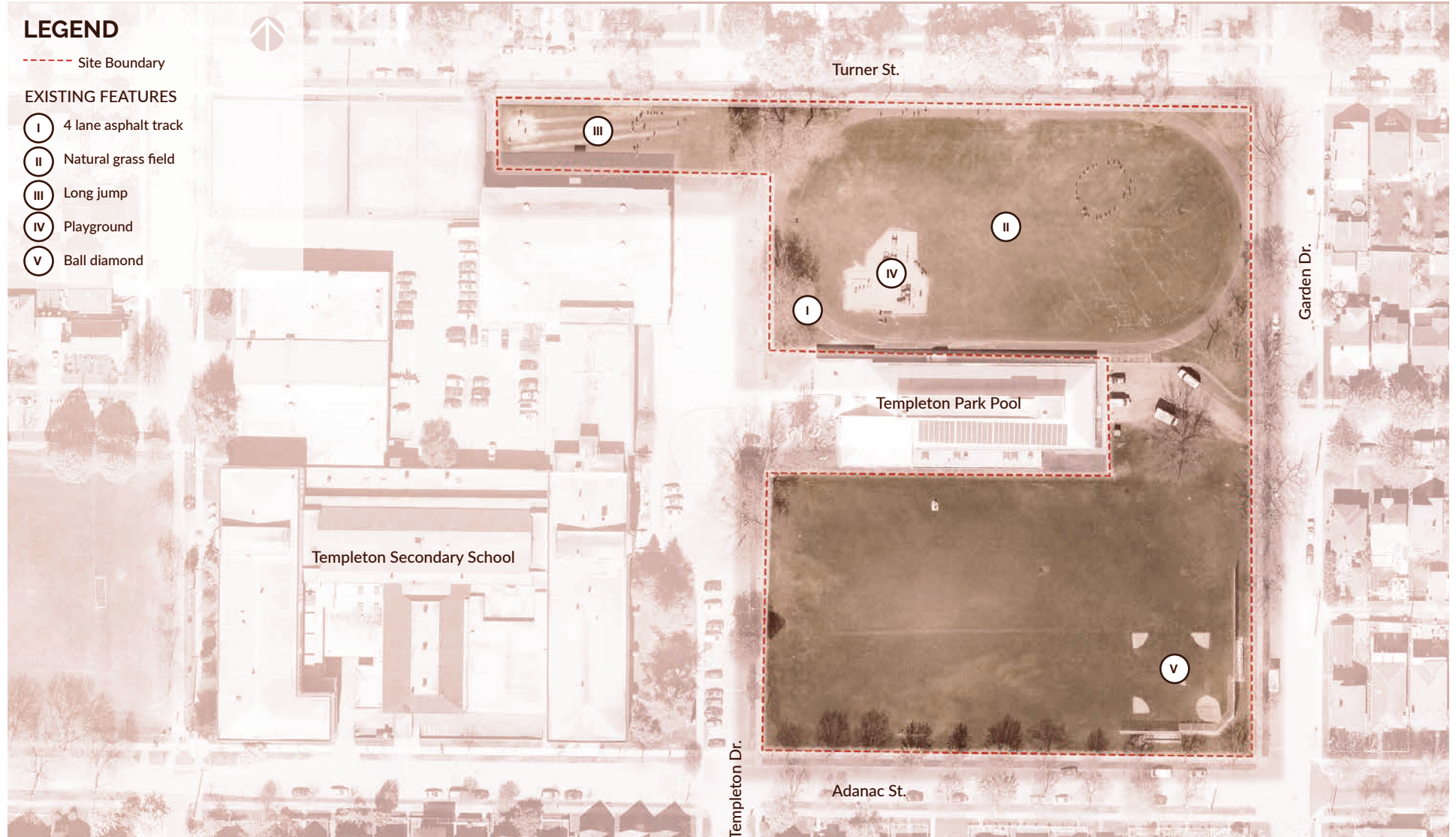


EXISTING CONDITIONS (CONTINUED)

KERRISDALE PARK/POINT GREY SECONDARY



TEMPLETON PARK



MONITORING AND REPORTING

In order to ensure that recommendations are consistently implemented in line with the vision, principles and policies of this strategy, staff will monitor and report back to the Park Board on the following:

- Planning, Design and Development of the proposed Category A and B facilities for multi-use, including other sports and community
- Capital Planning and budget allocation to achieve priority improvements to Recreation Track and Field facilities
- Implementation of improvements to existing recreational track and field amenities
- Implementation of shared-use agreements with the Vancouver School Board
- Implementation of the allocation policy and strategy for programming and booking facilities
- Tracking, organizing and analyzing facility use, in cooperation with the Vancouver School Board
- Effectiveness of dedicated facility staff on improving user education and reducing conflict between user groups.
- Development of programs and standards that align with Vancouver Parks Board and Vancouver School Board program needs
- Improving accessibility of facilities for all users
- Coordination and improved access to outreach programs





