



Belle Park Ideas - Public Recap

Dates: August 22nd, 2017 – INVISTA Centre

- The purpose of the public recap session was to inform the public on the consultation process, survey results and provide another opportunity to gather input.
- Approximately 63 people attended – On the sign in sheet, several people identified which group they represented:
 - Pickle Ball – 9 members
 - Rugby – 46 members
 - Boat Launch – 1 member
 - Belle Park Work Group -1 member
 - Did not identify – 6 individuals
- The public were given background information on how the survey was created, structured and advertised.
- The survey results were then shared with the public, including a representations of themed comments
- Survey highlights were highlighted as potentials for recommendations to Council
- The public was informed that as a next step, staff would be drafting a report to council and working with the Belle Park Working Group on the recommendations. This would happen in early September.
- Staff would target the September 19th Council session for the report.
- Staff then provided an opportunity for Questions & Answers:

Q: How many golfers use it now?

A: In 2016 there were 68 members – this does not cover the people that drop in or use the driving range.

Q: How is the scoring determined in the far right column regarding the survey results? Is it out of 5?

A: It is a weighted average where the first choice is weighed higher than the second and third choice etc.

Q: What is the plan going forward and where will the money come from to fund any changes?

A: Next step is to approach council with the report after we work on the recommendations with the Belle Park Working Group. Council reads the background information and will vote on the appropriate action.

Q: Can rugby use the same fields as soccer and vice versa?

A: The cities intent would be to install multi-purpose fields.

Q: How much land are we talking about?

A: Close to 60 acres. Some is available to use, some is not.

Q: What is the cities timeline?

A: Meet with the working group within the first 1-2 weeks of September. Target a report to Council to the September 19th Council meeting.

Q: Is the city going to take responsibility for groups working together or will each group be expected to work together?

A: Ideally both would happen. The land will still have to be managed and maintained by the City as it is a city landfill first and foremost.

Q: Is the entire place a landfill or just a certain area?

A: The entire space is a landfill. It was first a marsh then a landfill.

Q: Of all of the users of Belle Park golfers are the only ones who pay. Is there a business plan to make Pickleball and Rugby pay to use the area/facilities? There is a lot of cost associated to build up and develop the land to accommodate rugby. There are other areas in the city where rugby can be played. There are no other places within the city for golf. The golf can be fixed. It's a price point. The

golf is designed for seniors and youth.

A: Depending on council's decision staff will be looking at cost scenarios for rugby, pickleball etc.

Q: Is there a current map that shows how much available space there is to work with? Example: is there a map that shows "this is what it would look like if a rugby field was put in turf or real".

A: The master planning of the area would be the next step after the September council meeting. There is currently no map that shows what the area would look like with those options.

Q: What type of long term commitment would community groups and sports groups be able to get from the City?

A: Would have to confirm with legal and the real estate department but the City offers 5 year by 5 year and 20 year by 20 year options.

Q: Is there still time to comment and provide ideas?

A: Tonight is the last public session however, input can still be offered through the website.

Q: Have other cities gone through something similar? Have you spoken to other municipalities?

A: During the first public consultation session Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development showed comparable examples of parks in other cities and municipalities and what was done to those areas.

Q: When budgeting, how does the City know the investment potential of user groups?

A: We have received one proposal from the rugby group. We have not received proposals from other community or sports groups.

Q: There is a concern that the park as is, is losing a lot of money. A lot of what is being said would be less cost.

A: The city will still have to pay to operate and maintain the land. The cost to maintain a park would be upwards of at least \$100,000 regardless of what is done to the site.