



Motion Memorandum

SUBJECT: Central Park Cricket
TO: Council Meeting
From: Councillor Lisa Kearns

Seconded by (for Council only): Councillor Rory Nisan

Date to Committee: N/A

Date to Council: April 21, 2026

CIP Date: N/A

Motion for Council to Consider:

Direct the Director of Recreation, Community and Culture and the Director of Engineering to pause the planned renovations at the Central Park Cricket Pitch in order to undertake a public engagement process and explore options to address resident concerns.

Reason:

Central Park has supported cricket activity for more than a decade; however, the sport has experienced significant growth in popularity over the past five years. This growth has increased both permitted and unpermitted use of the park, placing additional pressure on the site and prompting ongoing concerns from nearby residents.

In response to the increased use of Central Park for cricket and the resulting concerns expressed by nearby residents, staff have been planning renovations to the existing cricket pitch within the park. The proposed work includes repositioning the pitch within the broader park layout, with the goal of balancing the use of the cricket pitch in a safe manner with other existing active and passive uses in the park. To accommodate this shift, the design requires the removal of trees and parking spaces to support the revised pitch configuration.

In addition to the physical design changes, staff have planned adjustments to permitted hours of play, as requested by residents, and plan to closely monitor game play following the renovations. Based on post-implementation observations, additional mitigation measures may be considered in the future, if required.

Outcome Sought:

Find a clear path forward that balances the needs and concerns of residents adjacent to Central Park with the needs of the cricket community.

Implications:

Implications include staff time and resources required to undertake public engagement, as well as potential staffing and financial impacts should revisions to the pitch design be necessary.

References:

[Live and Play Plan](#)

Strategic Alignment

- Designing and delivering complete communities
 - Providing the best services and experiences
 - Protecting and improving the natural environment and taking action on climate change
 - Driving organizational performance
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Approved as per form by the City Clerk