

**Greengrove Park Nine-Hole Disc Golf Pilot Project****Report Purpose**

To provide Council with an update on the Greengrove Park Disc Golf pilot project and seek Council approval to continue working with Sherwood Park Disc Golf Association on a nine-hole disc golf course in Greengrove Park.

**Recommendation**

THAT the nine-hole disc golf course in Greengrove Park, be approved.

**Our Prioritized Strategic Goals**

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 2 Priority - A diverse, welcoming, inclusive, and an accessible community for all

**Report**

Strathcona County completed the Recreation and Culture Strategy in 2019. To create the strategy, feedback was gathered from residents on what they considered to be recreation and culture priorities for the community over the next 12 years. Initiatives related to disc golf are identified in the Recreation and Culture Strategy Implementation Plan as:

- expanding the programming and operations of the nine-hole course at Strathcona Wilderness Centre; and
- as new parks are being built, consider incorporation of additional amenities such as disc golf.

On April 5, 2022, Council directed administration to pilot a five-hole disc golf course for the spring through summer 2022 season and report back to Council.

The 2022 pilot project included:

- two learn-to play sessions in June (one weekend and one evening)
- two Sherwood Park Disc Golf Association events with 250 participants (June and September 2022)
- utilization statistics taken June through August 2022
- online survey for pilot disc golf users and non-disc golf visitors (October 3-17, 2022)

The five-hole Greengrove Park disc golf course pilot included communication to encourage participation and to gather feedback from both disc golf users and non-disc golf visitors through an online survey. Communication about the pilot and online survey included newspaper ads, coroplast signs in Greengrove Park, recreation facility digital ads, and posts on County social media channels. Letters were also sent to 69 households that back onto Greengrove Park.

A survey report (enclosure 2) provides a summary about who participated in the survey (both disc golf users and non-disc golf visitors), their frequency of play, the satisfaction of their experience, the preference for the volume of disc golf course holes for Greengrove Park and an overview of the sentiment shared by the online survey participants.

This pilot explored a potential change in use for a County park primarily used by County residents. As a result, survey participation was limited to County residents and responses from outside of Strathcona County were disqualified. Through the analysis several duplicate, ineligible and fraudulent responses from respondents both inside and outside the County

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were also disqualified. These actions maintained the validity of the data collected. We received feedback from 80 eligible respondents.

Overall, survey respondents were satisfied with the pilot disc golf course. The most common comment was a desire for more holes, and a belief that the park could accommodate at least nine holes. We also heard some comments reiterating the danger of potentially being hit by a flying disc and other disruptions to other park use. These respondents believe that disc golf is inappropriate for the park and could be relocated to another park with the potential for fewer conflicts between disc golfers and other users. For further details please reference the survey report.

### **Council and Committee History**

April 5, 2022	That Administration adjust the Nine-Hole Disc Golf Course pilot project in Greengrove Park to pilot a Five-Hole Disc Golf course for the spring – summer 2022 season and report back to Council by the end of the fourth quarter of 2022 with an evaluation of the pilot.
March 8, 2022	That the matters related to the Greengrove Park disc golf course that were raised during the March 8, 2022 Open House be referred to Administration to prepare a report for Council's consideration at the March 22, 2022 Council meeting on the history and process followed for the planning and installation of the course.
Sept 7, 2021	The Priorities Committee received an update on a nine-hole disc golf course.
July 20, 2021	Council approved an expenditure of \$9,350 from Council Priority Funds for the purpose of providing funds to the Sherwood Park Disc Golf Association for costs associated with the purchase of portable disc golf baskets.
June 22, 2021	The Priorities Committee received an update on temporary disc golf locations in the urban area.
May 18, 2021	Council approved that Administration investigate options for a second Municipal Disc Golf Course and bring a report to Council for consideration before the end of Q3 2021; and That Administration provide information on possible temporary disc golf locations throughout the urban area as soon as practicable but no later than the end of Q2 2021.

### **Other Impacts**

**Policy:** n/a

**Legislative/Legal:** n/a

**Financial/Budget:** Budget impacts are within approved budget

**Interdepartmental:** Planning and Development Services, Financial and Strategic Services (Insurance/risk management)

**Master Plan/Framework:** Recreation and Culture Strategy, Recreation and Culture Strategy Implementation Plan

### **Communication Plan**

A communication plan will be developed for this initiative pending Council approval.

**Enclosures**

- 1 Greengrove Park Disc Golf Pilot Project presentation
- 2 Greengrove Park Pilot Disc Golf Course Survey Report