

Comparison of Concepts of a Sports Dome and Indoor Fieldhouse**Report Purpose**

To provide Council with an update on the Indoor Fieldhouse

Recommendation

n/a

Our Strategic Goals

Goal 2 - Healthy and Safe Community

Goal 3 - Responsible Development

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

Goal 3 Priority - Growth and development that prioritizes community well-being and economic benefits

Report

In October of 2018, the Sherwood Park District Soccer Association presented a report to the Priorities Committee proposing the need for an indoor, full-size, non-boarded turf field. Following this presentation, Council passed a motion directing administration to commence design of a multi-sport field.

During the first phase of the indoor fieldhouse planning process, administration completed the Recreation and Culture Strategy, undertook multiple forms of in-depth public engagement, and completed a comprehensive facility feasibility process. This included a market needs assessment, economic impact assessment, concept design, and operating and capital cost estimates.

Over the course of 2020-2022, Council approved three approval gates for the project including facility concept, design funding, and the site, which included the acquisition of additional land at the Buckingham location. Following Council's approval of the site in January of 2022, administration began the design phase of the project.

A capital planning discussion took place at the May 17, 2022 Council Meeting. Council directed administration to pause work on the project and to finalize the design, scope and budget in 2025/2026, with construction to commence in 2027, subject to budget approval. Based on this direction, the project team summarized the design work completed to date so that it could be used as the foundation when the design process resumes in 2025.

In late 2022 and early 2023, administration had dialogue with local community groups regarding the immediate need for an indoor turf facility. In addition, local groups engaged Council outlining the need for a facility and desire to look at alternatives for an indoor facility and reviewed the timeline for design and construction. As a result, on April 5, 2023, Council directed administration to prepare a report for consideration comparing the concept of an air-supported sports dome and a conventional indoor fieldhouse.

As a result of the extensive engagement activities that have occurred over the last three years, it is evident that there is a need for an indoor turf facility, and many local groups would benefit from such a facility. In addition, this could also free up space in other facilities to satisfy additional community recreation needs.

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Lead Department: Recreation, Parks and Culture

An air-supported facility has several benefits, including, lower initial capital cost, short construction timeline, and year-round use to accommodate a wide range of activities. In turn, there are some drawbacks; including lower life expectancy, durability, energy efficiency, and higher operating costs related to increased utility consumption.

A conventional indoor fieldhouse has several benefits including higher energy efficiency, lower utility consumption and sustainability, increased durability and climate resilience against severe weather, expandability, and aesthetics. The main drawbacks include higher initial capital costs and longer construction timeline.

Administration will provide Council with additional details regarding the benefits and drawbacks for both types of facilities, including high-level capital and operating budget estimates for their consideration and direction on next steps for the project.

Council and Committee History

April 5, 2023	THAT Administration prepare a report for Council's consideration by the end of Quarter 2 with a comparison between the concepts of a sports dome and an indoor fieldhouse.
May 17, 2022	THAT the Capital Planning Recommendations, as set out in enclosure 5 Capital Planning Recommendations (Revised) of the May 17, 2022 Financial and Strategic Services report, be approved.
January 18, 2022	THAT the Buckingham site, as set out in the January 18, 2022 Recreation, Parks and Culture report, be approved as the site location for the indoor fieldhouse. That an amendment to the 2021 Capital Budget to increase the scope of the Indoor Fieldhouse project in the amount of \$3,150,000 (from \$5,000,000 to \$8,151,000 million) to include a strategic land purchase, to be funded from Municipal Reserves, be approved.
January 19, 2021	Recreation, Parks and Culture, Planning and Development Services, Facility Services and RC Strategies presented a project status and site assessment update to Council.
November 24, 2020	THAT funding in the amount of up to \$5 million, for the Gate 2 detailed design of the Indoor Fieldhouse, as set out in slide 12 of enclosure 2 to the October 27, 2020 Recreation, Parks and Culture Council report, be included as part of the proposed 2021 Capital Budget for Council's consideration.
October 27, 2020	Recreation, Parks and Culture and RC Strategies presented a project status update with facility concept options. Council approved Gate 1 and concept option 4; Fieldhouse + Track + Court Space + Social.
October 6, 2020	Recreation, Parks and Culture, RC Strategies and Facility Services presented a project status update to Priorities Committee.
October 22, 2019	Recreation, Parks and Culture and Facility Services Priorities Committee presentation: Multi-Sport Indoor Field Update.
December 6, 2018	Council Motion 2018/CB 38: THAT \$260,000 to fund the design for the multi-sport dome be added to the proposed capital budget for 2019.
October 23, 2018	Sherwood Park District Soccer Association: Indoor Soccer Center presentation to the Priorities Committee.

Other Impacts**Policy: N/A****Legislative/Legal: N/A****Financial/Budget: N/A****Interdepartmental: N/A****Master Plan/Framework: N/A****Enclosure**

1 2023 Indoor Turf Facility Comparison presentation