

Date: July 28, 2025

To: Mayor and Council

Name and title: Blake McIntosh, Director of Civic Operations

Subject: Grant Application – Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Strategic Priorities Fund

Attachment(s): Appendix A - Carrie Jane Gray Park Renewal Preferred Concept Plan and Carrie Jane Gray Park Renewal Phasing Plan

Recommendation(s):

That Council APPROVES the City of Prince George apply for the Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) Capital Infrastructure Stream as described in the report dated July 28, 2025 from the Director of Civic Operations titled “Grant Application – Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Strategic Priorities Fund, and if any of the applications are successful, AUTHORIZES the Director of Civic Operations to sign the associated funding agreement(s).

Purpose:

This report is before Council to provide information on a grant application through the Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) delivered through the Canada Community Building Fund in BC, formerly known as the Gas Tax Fund. Administration is seeking Council approval on the grant application in support of the Carrie Jane Gray Renewal Preferred Concept Plan and Phasing Plan.

Background:

Carrie Jane Gray is Prince George’s premier athletic hub and a focus for future investment and development. The 40-ha athletic park forms a destination component of the area’s core sports and recreation network and supports the community’s recreation needs through a mix of sporting infrastructure.

The Carrie Jane Gray Park Renewal Preferred Concept Plan was presented to Council at the November 4th, 2024 open council meeting. It is in essence a master plan that provides a cohesive vision and direction to revitalize existing infrastructure, maximize recreation potential of underutilized space, improve site circulation and sport hosting ability, support new and diverse amenities, improve accessibility and increase safety.

Discussion:

The Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF) Capital Infrastructure Stream supports recreation and sport infrastructure and the work that has been done through strategies, public engagement and direction set with council’s approval for the Carrie Jane Gray (CJG) Park Renewal master plan. The CJG master plan provides direction and the foundation for a multi phased approach revitalizing Carrie Jane Gray Park and creating a premier athletic hub that provides opportunities for the community; builds

capacity and growth for sport; and increases the ability to host local, regional, provincial and national tournaments and games

Council direction, previous strategic plans, user group and community engagement and analysis formed the preferred Carrie Jane Gray Master Plan (see Appendix A). The plan provides guidance for site improvements including amenity configuration, road connectivity and a second all weather synthetic turf field.

Improvements to the park are phased over the next several years starting with civil and utility servicing, design and building a new BMX track and moving into phases 2 – 5, building new amenities including buildings, lighting, turf and irrigation, parking and road infrastructure and a new synthetic turf multi sport field for extended season use.

Financial Considerations:

To realize the preferred concept plan over the next several years, Park staff will look for Council's approval through annual capital budget funding submissions. Commitment to the Carrie Jane Gray upgrade and concept is a multi-million, multi-year investment in sport for our community. The grant application would focus on work planned for phase 3 2028 – 2030 and include a new artificial turf field and lighting with a class D estimated budget.

The SPF Capital Infrastructure stream provides grant funding specifically targeted for the capital costs of local government infrastructure projects that are large in scale, regional in impact, innovative and would provide funding to support the vision of Carrie Jane Gray Park. The SPF program can contribute a maximum of 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of \$7 million. Timing of the grant is up to 2 years after grant approval to start and must finish up to 5 years after approved – typically approved the following year (2026 in this case). Project is estimated start by 2028 and finish by 2031.

Strategic Priorities:

Carrie Jane Gray Park upgrade project aligns with social health and wellbeing and myPG goals including health and wellness, supportive and engaged communities, equity and inclusion and safe environments welcoming active sport enthusiasts to this key athletic hub.

Summary and conclusion:

The Carrie Jane Gray Park Upgrade project and master plan is a key multiyear project. Carrie Jane Gray Park Renewal master plan meets all the program goals and objectives identified within the Capital Infrastructure Stream through the Strategic Priority Fund being large in scale and impact and supporting building active clean environments and a strong community. Administration is seeking Council approval to apply for this grant in support of this multi-year renewal project.

Respectfully submitted:

Blake McIntosh, Director Civic Operations

Prepared by
Robyn McConkey, Parks Services Supervisor

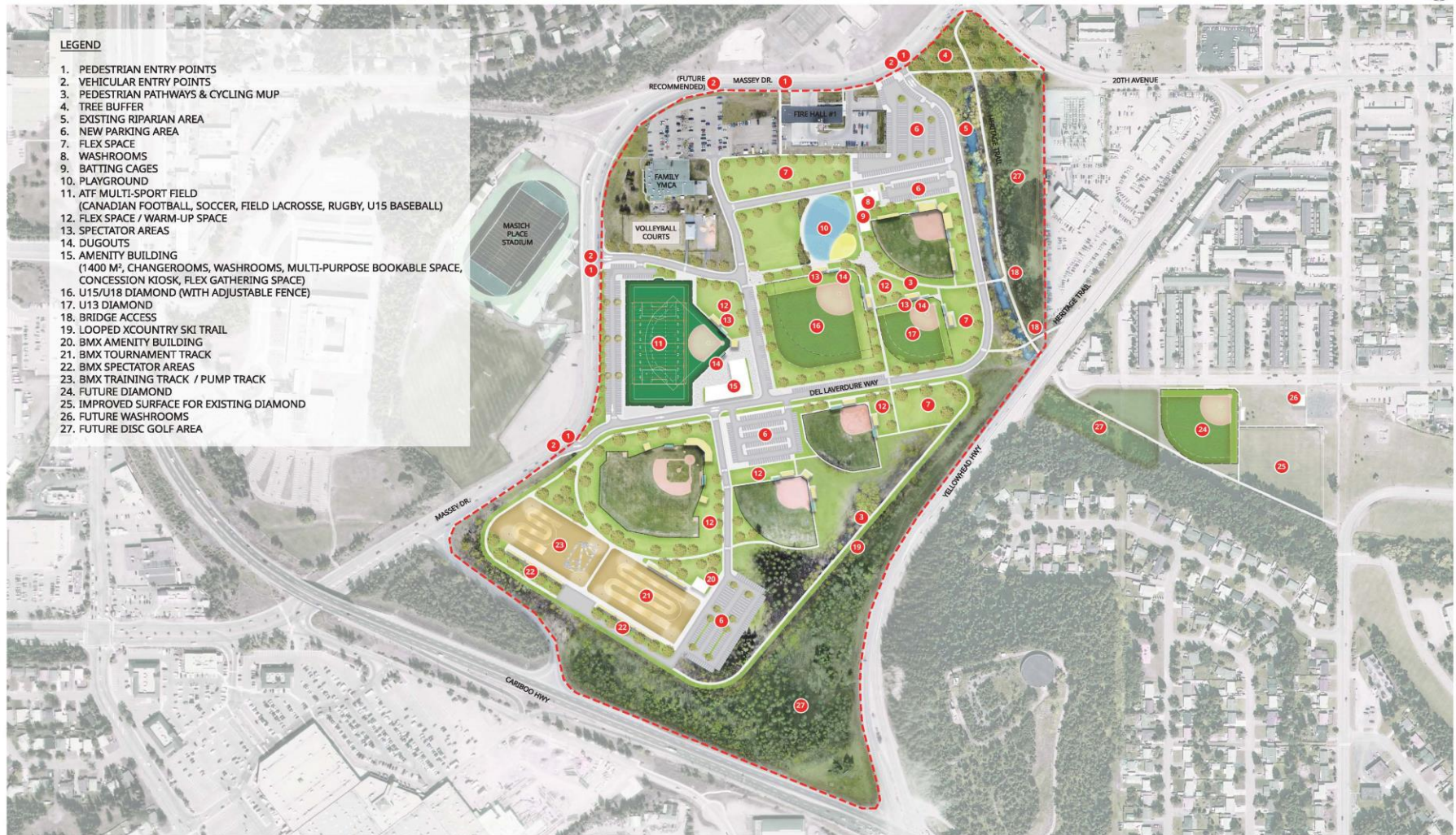
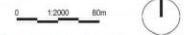
Approved:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: 2025/07/28

APPENDIX A

CLIENT:  CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE



CARRIE JANE GRAY PARK RENEWAL
OCTOBER 2, 2024

PREFERRED CONCEPT PLAN

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