



City of Port Moody

Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: December 14, 2020
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Recreation Services Division
Subject: Fitness Space Options for Individuals or Private Businesses

Purpose

To provide an update on options for increased outdoor fitness space options for individuals or private businesses.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT the private business request for outdoor fitness space options be referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for feedback as recommended in the report dated December 14, 2020 from the Community Services Department – Recreation Services Division regarding Fitness Space Options for Individuals or Private Businesses;

AND THAT the Temporary Assistance Program for Businesses be adapted to provide fitness-based businesses temporary access to public park space to mitigate COVID-19 impacts.

Background

On December 1, 2020, a delegation to Council requested that private individuals or businesses be permitted to utilize expanded outdoor fields, facilities, and spaces. Staff were asked to report back to a subsequent meeting.

Discussion

The current Fees Bylaw allows for allocated spaces to be rented out for outdoor boot camps at rental rate of \$28.90 per class. The fees bylaw does not identify a location, but currently the Heritage Elementary grass field has been identified as the location where outdoor boot camps are permitted. The Parks and Recreation Commission has the ability to review the fee for space rental and confirm the available sites.

With COVID-19 limiting indoor physical activity and business capacity, interest in outdoor spaces has increased, both for passive use and for organized activities. In identifying additional locations for outdoor fitness activities, parking, washroom access, wear and tear on the surfacing, noise, and potential conflict with other users' needs must be considered. Most sports fields meet the needs for outdoor fitness, but are heavily booked by community sports groups. Potential locations have been identified as options for outdoor space rentals for private

individuals or organizations as shown in **Attachment 1**. Each location has limitations to use, but could be made available to users.

To prevent overcrowding or overuse, and to allow staff to communicate updates with users, anyone wanting to use the space would need to book the space prior to use. Proper insurance, business license, and, while applicable, a COVID-19 Safety Plan would need to be provided before a booking could be finalized. The current rental rates could be used for boot camps and for the rental of Queen Street Plaza.

Additionally, the City's existing Temporary Assistance Program for Businesses, developed in 2020 to support businesses to access public space to expand their commercial footprint, could be adapted for outdoor fitness uses in public outdoor spaces such as parks; however, staff recommend that parks with greater user demand not be included as potential locations for consideration. The program requires a minimum of \$5 million of liability insurance along with the City of Port Moody named as an additional insured. In 2020, Council waived permit and licencing fees associated with this program to support businesses during COVID-19.

Other Option(s)

1. THAT staff proceed with the rental of spaces identified in Attachment 1 of the report dated December 14, 2020 from the Community Services Department – Recreation Services Division regarding Fitness Space Options for Individuals or Private Businesses as a pilot program in 2021.
2. THAT the report dated December 14, 2020 from the Community Services Department – Recreation Services Division regarding Fitness Space Options for Individuals or Private Businesses be received for information.

Financial Implications

This initiative could lead to increased revenue but would also require increased maintenance of these sites due to increased usage.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

If approved, staff would develop and implement a communication plan to inform the public and private businesses about the increased opportunities for private rentals of outdoor fitness space.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

This initiative would meet the Council Strategic Plan objective of encouraging lifelong healthy and active living.

Attachment(s)

1. Outdoor Fitness Rental Options.
2. Delegation Request.

Report Author

Jim LaCroix

Manager of Recreation Services

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Outdoor Fitness Options for Individuals or Private Businesses.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Outdoor Fitness Rental Options.pdf - Attachment 2 - Delegation Request.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jan 12, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Jim LaCroix, Manager of Recreation Services - Jan 11, 2021 - 12:46 PM

Ron Higo, General Manager of Community Services - Jan 11, 2021 - 1:17 PM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Jan 11, 2021 - 1:19 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Jan 12, 2021 - 8:52 AM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Jan 12, 2021 - 9:37 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Jan 12, 2021 - 11:15 AM