

Sport Field Strategy

“WHAT WE HEARD” REPORT #1





ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND KEY FINDINGS

HOW DID WE ENGAGE?

The initial phase of engagement was geared towards better understanding those factors that drive sport field use and participation, trends (e.g. what's becoming more or less popular), potential barriers to sport field access, and future priorities and focus areas. Ensuring that diverse viewpoints and perspectives were given a voice was an important overarching objective for this initial phase of engagement. As such, the project team utilized an array of tactics to engage the community.

ENGAGEMENT TACTICS & PARTICIPATION



PUBLIC SURVEY

Survey open to the public through *Shape Your City*
783 responses



QUANTITATIVE SURVEY

A statistically representative sampling of Vancouver residents
408 responses



PERMIT HOLDER/USER GROUP QUESTIONNAIRE

46 responding groups



STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS

29 total attendees representing a variety of sport field and other community interests
17 sessions



“POP-UP” EVENTS

Members of the project team engaged sport field users and residents at a number of sites throughout the city during the month of December
4 “pop-ups”

WHEN WILL WE ENGAGE NEXT?

A second phase of engagement will be initiated later in the project process once a draft Strategy has been developed. This second engagement phase will focus on reviewing and testing key elements of the Strategy and is expected to occur in late spring 2022.

KEY THEMES FROM THE INITIAL PHASE OF ENGAGEMENT

- Sport fields in Vancouver are **highly valued public assets** and used for a wide range of activities by a diversity of residents.
- **Amenity upgrades and enhancements** (e.g. washrooms, warm-up areas, spectator seating, etc.) are a **key priority focus areas** for both residents and user groups. These amenity spaces are also a driver of which fields are preferred and used by individuals and groups.
- Ensuring fields are **accessible for both traditional and emerging uses** is important and needs to be considered in capital planning and ongoing operations (e.g. allocation of field space and time).
- While the pandemic has been disruptive and presented challenges, there is an expectation that **most groups will grow** in the coming years.
- **Activity preferences** and **trends** are varied across the city and influenced by a number of factors, including the capacity of community organizations delivering the program(s), the availability of suitable sport fields, and demographics.
- A diversity of viewpoints exist on the **types of sport fields** that should be a priority for future investment. Demands for both basic neighbourhood level fields and major “hub” facilities were expressed by various groups and resident cohorts across the city.
- Residents and user groups also hold a wide range of perspectives related to **artificial turf** based on health and environment considerations (as an example, the responses provided in the Quantitative Survey differ from the Public Survey and stakeholders held wide-ranging opinions on this topic).
- Residents value opportunities for **casual (“spontaneous”) play** and want quality sports field surfaces available for these activities close to where they live.
- Residents across the city feel strongly that **equity** and **accessibility**, especially for youth, should be primary planning and investment considerations.

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1. PUBLIC SURVEY



OVERVIEW & METHODOLOGY

A public survey was made available through *Shape Your City* (shapeyourcity.ca) – the City of Vancouver’s public engagement platform. The survey was available for approximately 3 weeks from late November through to just before the December holidays and garnered 783 responses. Provided as follows in this section are findings from the survey.

KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SURVEY RESPONDENTS

- **The majority of respondents have children in their household.** 66% indicated that they have children residing in their household (60% were couples with children)
- **Fairly even mix of responses by gender.** 55% of respondents identified as males and 40% identified as female (5% identified as non-binary / gender diverse, other, or preferred not to say).
- **Approximately one-quarter of respondents to the survey identified as being of non-European descent.** These respondents self-identified a number of ethnicities.
- **Most respondents were long-standing residents.** 78% have lived in Vancouver for more than 10 years.

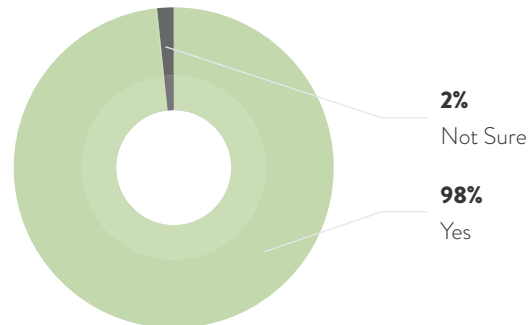
SPORT FIELD USAGE

To begin the survey, respondents were asked a series of questions pertaining to their use of sport fields in the city. 98% of the public survey respondents indicated that they use sport fields in Vancouver.

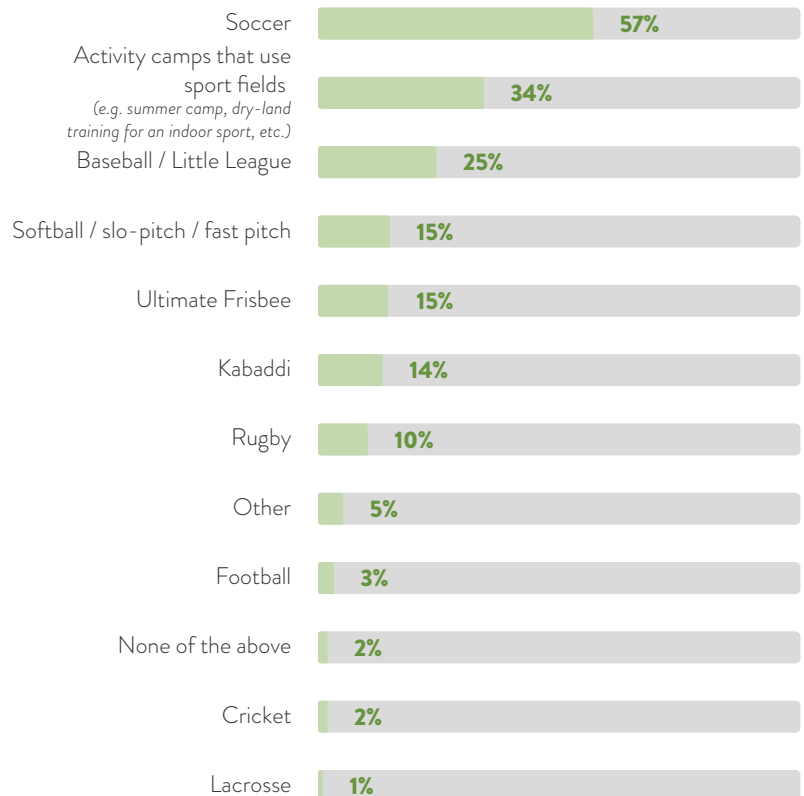
Respondents were provided with a list of activities and asked to indicate the activities that members of their household participate in on a regular basis. The top three responses were soccer (57%), activity camps that use sport fields (e.g. like summer camp or dry-land training camps) (34%), and baseball/little league (25%).

Of the responses that selected "other" and chose to provide an alternate activity, the majority indicated either running or walking or a sport or activity that does not typically take place on a sport field.

DO YOU USE SPORT FIELDS IN VANCOUVER?



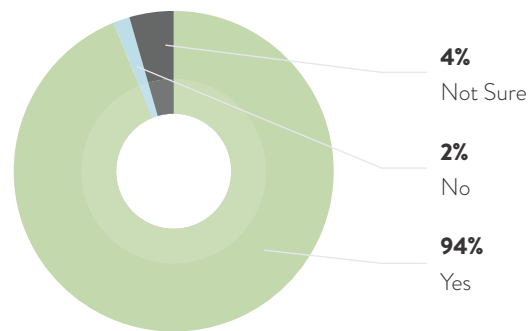
ACTIVITIES THAT RESPONDENT HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN



SPORT FIELD DEVELOPMENT AND ENHANCEMENT

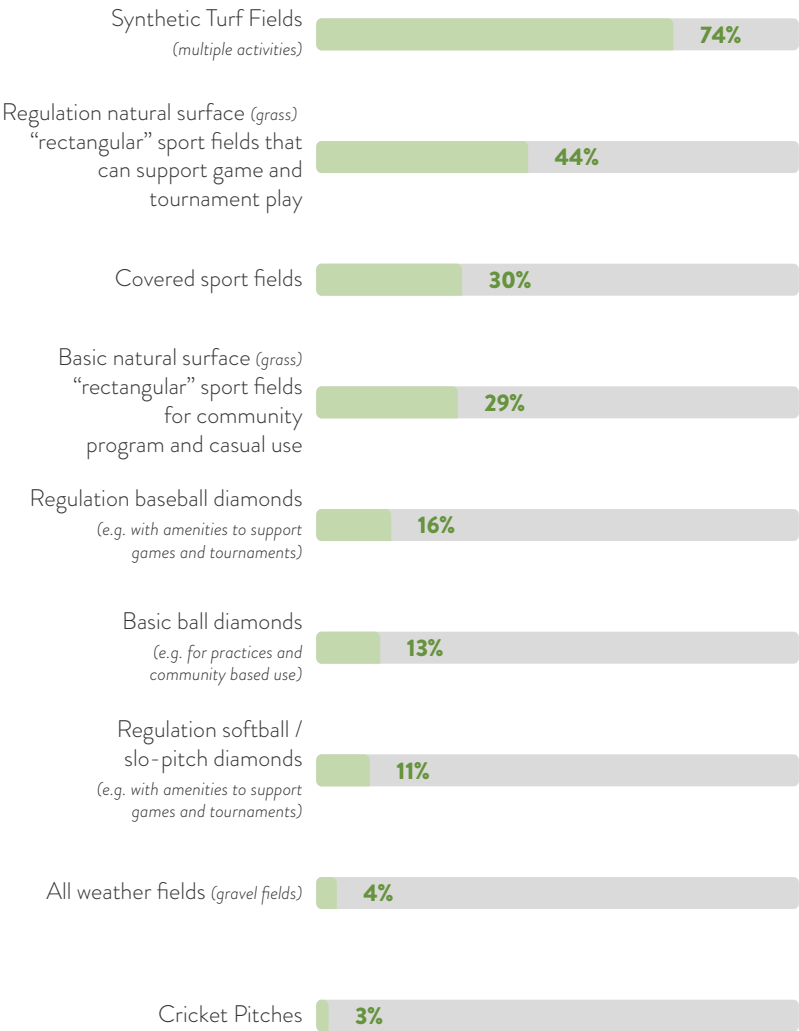
Respondents were asked if they felt that there is a need for additional or enhanced sport fields in Vancouver. 94% of respondents indicated that they felt there is a need for additional sport fields, 2% indicated that there is not a need and 4% were not sure.

IS THERE A NEED FOR ADDITIONAL OR ENHANCED SPORT FIELDS IN VANCOUVER?



Respondents were then asked to identify (from a list) up to three different types of sport fields that they think the Park Board should focus investment on. Nearly three-quarters of respondents (74%) indicated that they think that the Park Board should focus on synthetic turf fields. The next most prevalent responses were regulation natural surface (grass) “rectangular” sport fields (44%), followed by covered sport fields (30%).

SPORT FIELDS OF PRIORITY

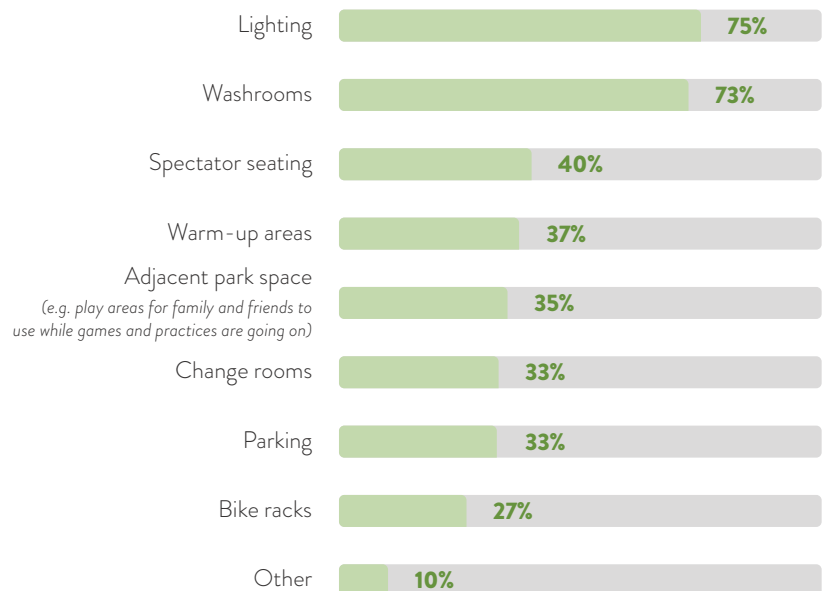




Next, respondents were asked to select (from a list) the types of amenities that they would like to see enhanced or provided in greater supply at sport fields in Vancouver. Increased or enhanced lighting (75%) and washrooms (73%) were the two most prevalent responses, followed by spectator seating (40%).

Of the respondents that selected “other” and chose to provide another type of amenity, covered areas for teams on the sidelines (warm-up areas) and disc golf baskets were the most popular written responses.

PRIORITIES FOR AMENITIES AT SPORT FIELDS



Respondents ranked project development criteria from 1 to 6, with 1 as the most important item and 6 as the lowest. Below is a table indicating the average ranking of the priorities and how many times each priority was ranked as most important. Prioritizing sport fields that can be used year-round in all weather conditions was the highest ranked priority, follow by addressing geographic gaps and improving sport field quality. Notably, cost considerations (operations/maintenance and construction) were not as high of a priority for respondents.

Ranking	Priorities	Number of Times Ranked #1
1	Prioritizing sport fields that can be used year-round in all weather conditions	375
2	Addressing gaps where some areas of the city are lacking some types of sport fields	180
3	Improving the quality of existing sport fields (even if it means not adding new fields)	133
4	Focusing resources on areas of the city experiencing growth	55
5	Prioritizing fields that are cheaper to operate and maintain	18
6	Prioritizing fields that are cheaper to build	23

GENERAL COMMENTS

Respondents were given the opportunity to share any additional comments on the current needs or future planning for sport fields in Vancouver. Summarized as follows are the main themes from the 582 comments provided.

- Respondents shared examples of sport field set ups that they enjoyed from other municipalities and places around the world.
- Many comments reiterated the need for more fields of both natural and synthetic surface types across the City of Vancouver with many respondents advocating for their neighbourhood as a potential location.
- Lighting at all fields is a top priority for many respondents.
- Respondents commented on the allocation process for fields and indicated that they hoped for more transparency with the process as well as more information online about how to book. Some believe priority should be given to organizations with the most participants and were frustrated to see field bookings with few players on the field.
- Many respondents took the opportunity to reiterate the difference between softball diamonds and baseball diamonds. Softball diamonds were perceived by some respondents to be in shorter supply than baseball.
- There were many comments indicating a need for more field hockey specific turf fields (15% of comments). Additionally, many comments suggested that the fields are often booked by other sports that do not require the specific style of turf field such as soccer and felt that field hockey should be prioritized due to the lack of other suitable field options.
- There are people who would like to see some permanent disc golf baskets in parks in the city. Many would like to see these at designated sport fields to ensure that there is space to play safely and be booked in advance.
- Andy Livingston Park was noted several times because of the frequency that it floods, the lack of washroom access and conflicts with public users. Several respondents indicated that they do not feel safe using this field.

- Respondents would like to see a greater presence of Park Rangers across the city but particularly at Andy Livingston and Trillium.
- Some concern was expressed on the environmental and health impacts of artificial turf fields.
- There is a need to improve washroom access at sites where there are no washrooms and where the washrooms attract individuals who are not using the fields. Safety concerns were noted and often referenced substance use.
- Maintenance and field upkeep was described as inconsistent across the city.
- Warm up spaces and covered areas was noted several times as being desirable.



2. QUANTITATIVE RESIDENT SURVEY



OVERVIEW & METHODOLOGY

Leger was contracted to field a survey that could provide a demographically representative sampling of Vancouver residents, free from the potential bias or influence by interest groups in the city. The online survey was conducted using *Leger*'s online panel, LEO, and open from December 20, 2021 to January 11, 2022. A total of 408 surveys were completed which provides a margin of error equivalent to +/- 4.9%.¹

Provided on the following pages is a synopsis of key findings from the Quantitative Survey. The detailed findings report developed by *Leger* is included in Appendix A of this document.

¹ A target of 400 responses was set at the outset of the survey. The margin of error indicates that if the same survey was fielded again 20 times, the responses would be within +/- 4.9% 19 out of those 20 times.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

SPORT FIELD USAGE & SATISFACTION

- Forty percent (40%) of respondents use sport fields in Vancouver, with 50% of users accessing sport fields more since the start of the pandemic.
- While one-third of respondents don't face barriers for accessing sport fields (34%), those who reported barriers most often cited cost (17% of all respondents) and lack of availability (15%).
- Respondents who noted barriers most often reported that these barriers have a moderate (44%) or small (34%) impact on their use.
- Of those who use sport fields, summer (93%) and spring (83%) use is most popular; however, 49% use fields year-round.
- Soccer (75%), camp/non-field sports programs (49%), and baseball/Little League (45%) are the most popular activities for children in households that use sport fields.
- Non-field sports programs (63%) and soccer (51%) are the most popular activities for adults in households that use sport fields.
- Respondents from households that use sport fields were most often satisfied with physical accessibility (70%) and least satisfied with amenities such as washrooms, change rooms, etc. (54% satisfied).
- Proximity is by far the biggest influence for households determining which sport field to use (60%). Second to that is availability of parking (34%).

VALUE OF SPORT FIELDS AND IDENTIFIED NEEDS

- More than 8 in 10 respondents agree that all members of the community should have equal opportunity to use sport fields (83%), that it is important for children/youth to have access to sport fields (83%), and that it is important for Vancouverites to have access to fields for casual/unstructured use (82%).
- Respondents most frequently reported that changes are needed for basic, natural surface “rectangular” sport fields for community program and casual use (53%), as well as regulation “rectangular” fields for games and tournaments (48%).
- More than 6 in 10 respondents felt that washrooms should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sport fields in Vancouver (63%).
- Affordability was the most important factor for respondents (45%), when asked what the City and Park Board should consider when setting sport field priorities.
- With regards to field time allocation, approximately half of participants felt that structured programs for youth (51%) and schools/educational institutions (45%) should receive primary access priority.
- General priority considerations for allocating sport field time included participant numbers (58% ranked this within their top 5) and provision for structured and unstructured use (55%).



3. USER GROUP/ PERMIT HOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE



OVERVIEW & METHODOLOGY

Garnering input from organizations that use sport fields in Vancouver was another critical part of the initial engagement phase. A web based questionnaire was made available to representatives from organizations that have and/or continue to use sport fields managed by the Park Board. The survey was available for approximately three weeks and 46 individual groups provided a response, representing a diverse array of sport field activities and interests in Vancouver. *Please refer to Appendix B for a list of organizations that participated in the questionnaire.*

QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS

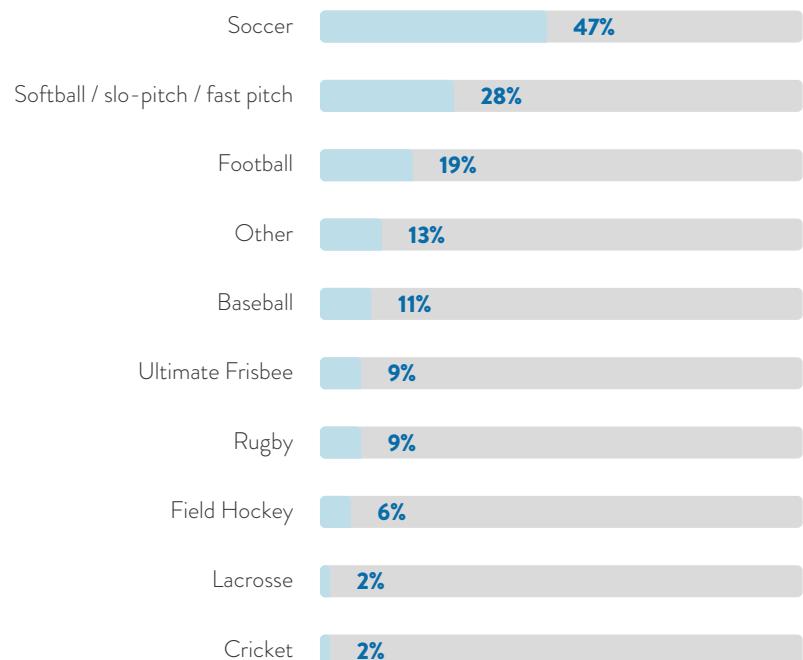
TYPES OF FIELD USE

To begin the questionnaire, group representatives were asked a series of questions about their organization. Half of group representatives indicated that they provide programming to children/youth while half indicated that they primarily serve adult/seniors age cohorts. As illustrated by the graph, just under half of responding groups were from the soccer community while 39% were from the ball community (when adding up the different types of ball). In general, the responding groups represented a good mix of sport field playing surfaces and activities.

The “other responses” included bocce ball, grass volleyball, triathlon, and sports camps.

The 46 organizations that responded to this survey represent more than 56,000 annual participants, 1,800 volunteers and over 400 staff members.

RESPONDING GROUPS BY ACTIVITY TYPE



PARTICIPATION

When asked about 5-year growth expectations, the majority of organizations indicated that they expect to experience either modest or strong growth. Only 2% (1 group) expected to experience a decline.

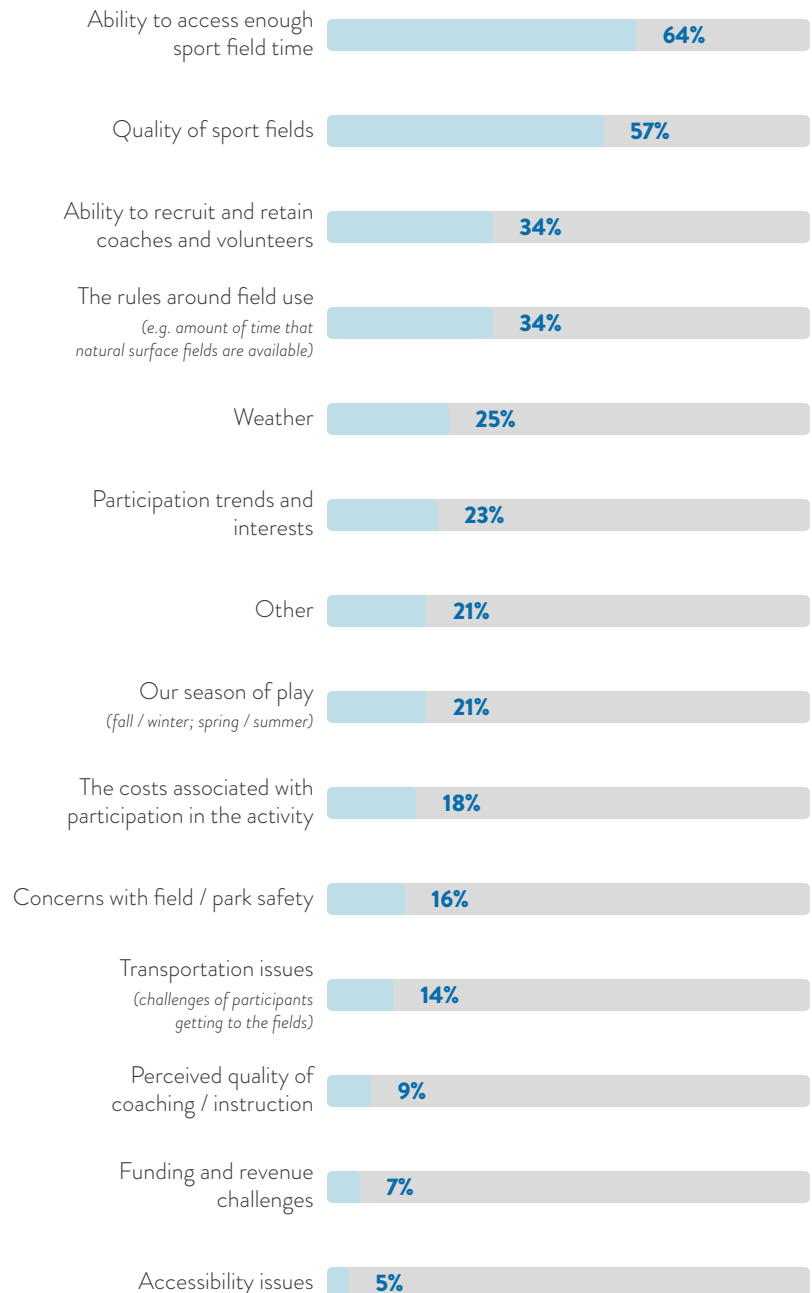
Growth Scenario	Responses
Strong Growth (more than 20%)	27%
Modest Growth (10 to 20%)	34%
Minimal Growth (less than 10%)	18%
Stay About the Same	18%
Decline	2%



Group representatives were next asked to identify up to 5 factors that will most significantly impact their organizations participation numbers. The ability to access enough fields and the quality of available fields were each identified by over half the groups.

Other responses reiterated the options provided above and referenced specific field features such as fencing, lines, lighting, and turf conditions. Field availability for shoulder season use and the ability to book specific fields was also noted as having impacts on participation.

TOP FACTORS IMPACTING PARTICIPATION NUMBERS



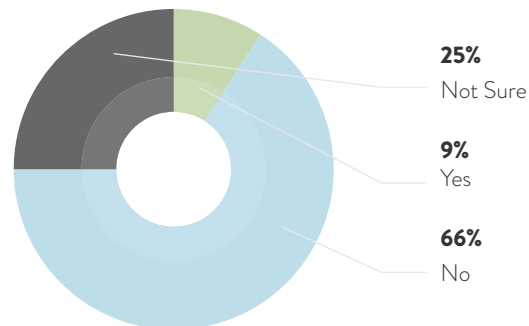
ACCESS TO SPORT FIELDS AND ALLOCATIONS

Groups were asked a handful of questions about their current access to field time. Approximately three-quarters (66%) of organizations indicated that they currently do not have access to sufficient field time and a relatively large number of group representatives (25%) were unsure.

Respondents were next asked to identify the specific challenges that their organization faces in accessing sufficient field time (if applicable). The top 3 responses provided were:

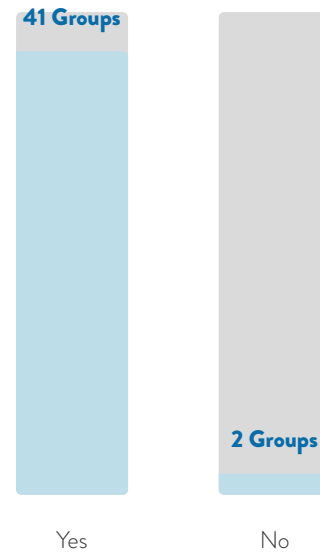
- Can't access enough field time overall (67%)
- Can't access the field during the preferred time slots (52%)
- Can't access fields needed for their specific activity (43%)

DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION CURRENTLY HAVE ACCESS TO SUFFICIENT FIELD TIME?



When, organizations were asked if they used all the time that they book, the majority of responding groups (41 groups) indicated that they **do** use all of their allotted time and 2 groups indicated that they **do not** use all of their booked time. The groups that indicated that they did not use all their booked time were subsequently asked why they don’t use all the time that they book. Both of these groups indicated that they book more time than needed to provide flexibility for weather disruptions and additional practice requests and indicated that they feared that if they turned down hours that they would lose them for the next year when they might need them.

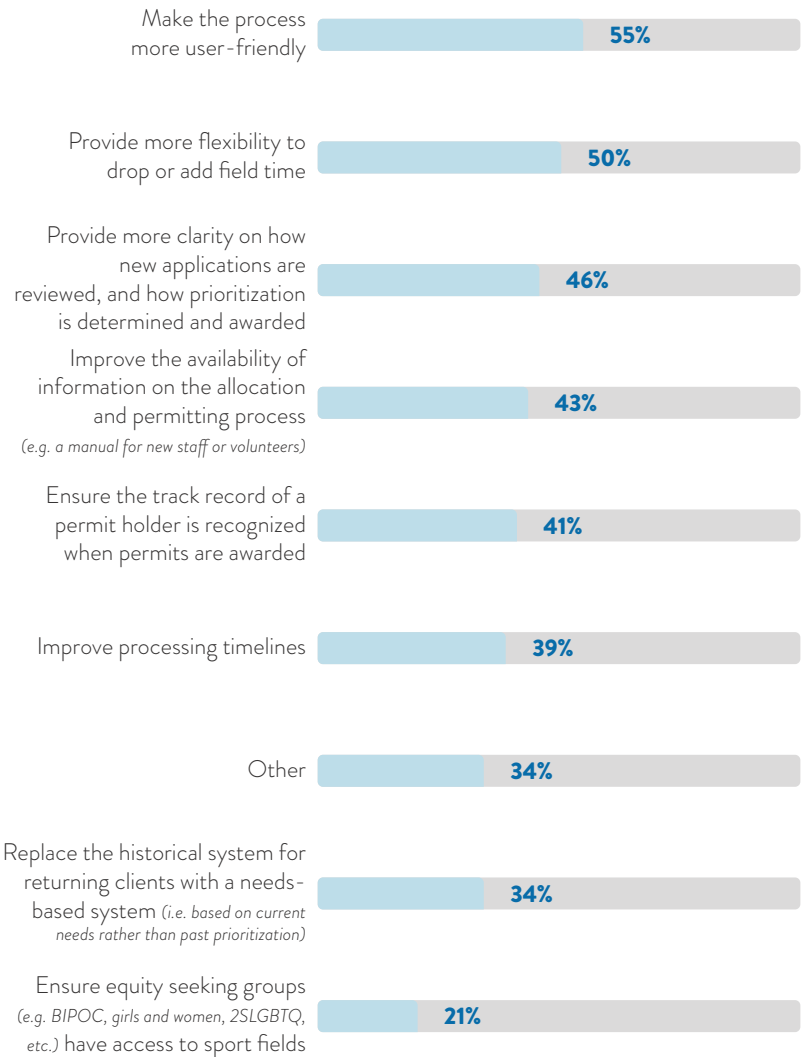
DOES YOUR ORGANIZATION USE ALL OF THE TIME THAT IT BOOKS?



Group representatives were asked to provide insights as to what could be done to improve the allocation and permitting process. They were provided a list of potential ways to improve the process and asked to select all that apply. Improving the user friendliness of the process, increased flexibility, and improved clarity and information dissemination were the top enhancements identified by the responding groups.

Written responses (“other”) included the suggestion that the Park Board should better enforce rules around illegal use of field time and ensure that fields are being used and not sitting empty. Some responses detailed specific issues with their organizations ability to book the fields that they need or want. Some of the “other” responses also reiterated that they feel the booking platform/software used is ‘clunky’ and ‘cumbersome’.

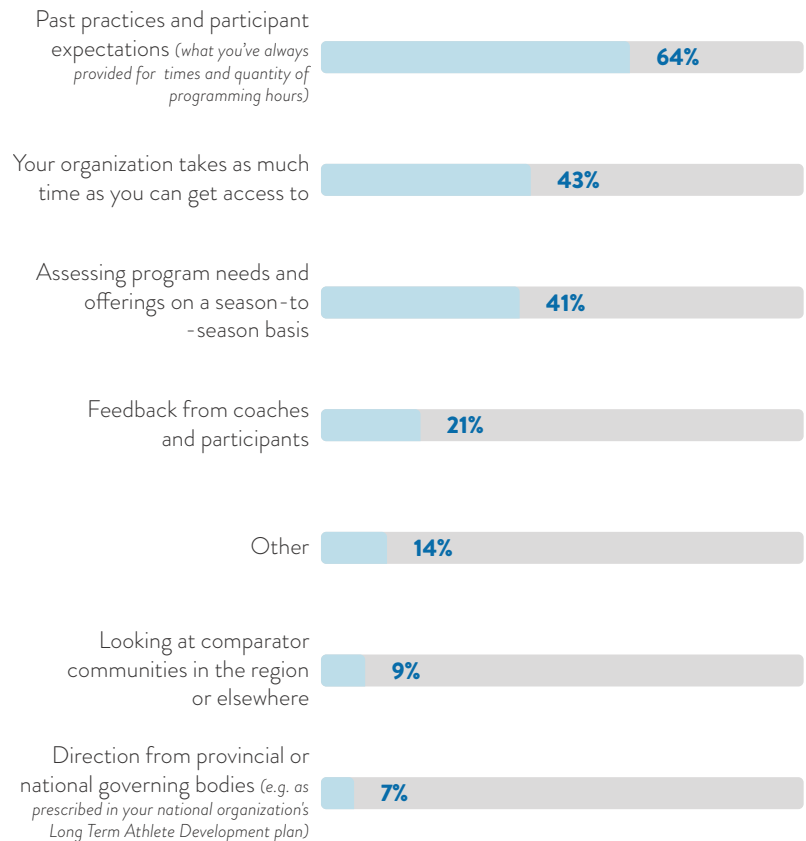
WHAT COULD BE DONE TO IMPROVE THE ALLOCATIONS AND PERMITTING PROCESS?



Next, the respondents were asked to share how they determine how much field time their organization needs during a season of play. Past practices and participant expectations (64%) were the most prevalent drivers behind how much time groups request and/or consume. 43% of groups also indicated that they take as much time as they can get access to and 41% assess their program needs on a season-to-season basis. Of note, only 7% (3 groups) identified that direction from their sport governing body (e.g. LTAD) drives the determination of how much time they require.

Those group representatives that selected ‘other’ and provided a written response reiterated or expanded upon the listed options, and expressed frustration with planning for growth due to the lack of suitable or available fields.

HOW DOES YOUR GROUP DETERMINE HOW MUCH FIELD TIME IT NEEDS DURING THE SEASON OF PLAY?



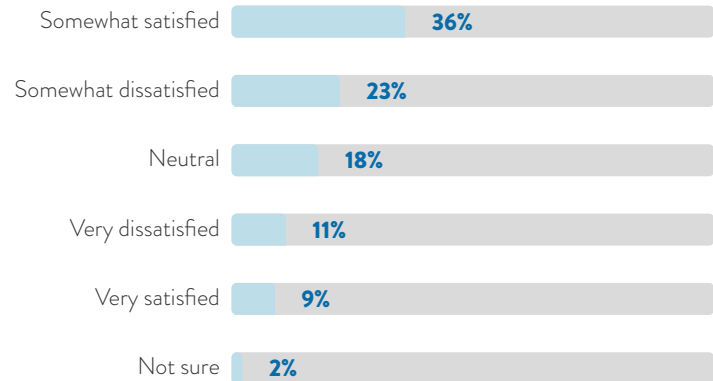
SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT SPORT FIELDS

User group representatives were asked to rank how satisfied their organization is with specific aspects of sport fields in Vancouver. 50% of respondents indicated that their organization is either very satisfied (11%) or somewhat satisfied (39%) with the quality of sport fields for practices. 61% of respondents indicated that their organization is either very satisfied (21%) or somewhat satisfied (40%) with the quality of sport fields for game play. Notably, 59% of respondents indicated that their organization is very or somewhat dissatisfied with support amenities at sport fields, such as change rooms, washrooms, and spectator seating. **Those responses identified by over 20% of groups are **bolded** in the chart below (excluding neutral responses).*

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not sure
The quality of sport fields for practices	11%	39%	23%	9%	11%	7%
The quality of sport fields for game play	21%	40%	9%	21%	7%	2%
The quality of sport fields for tournament play	17%	24%	17%	22%	17%	2%
Support amenities (e.g. change rooms, washrooms, spectator seating)	9%	16%	21%	28%	26%	0%
Physical accessibility at sport fields that you use	32%	20%	27%	7%	10%	5%

When asked about overall satisfaction with sport fields in the city, 45% of respondent organizations indicated that they are either somewhat satisfied (36%) or very satisfied (9%) and 34% of respondents are either somewhat dissatisfied (23%) or very dissatisfied (11%).

OVERALL SATISFACTION WITH SPORT FIELDS



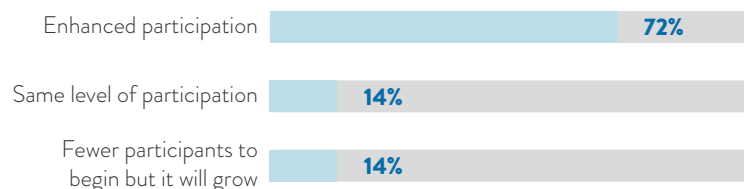
Group representatives were provided with space to further explain their organization’s level of satisfaction with sport fields in Vancouver. Listed below are some of the common themes from the comments provided.

- A handful of comments reiterated dissatisfaction with access to sport fields and the allocation process. Most of these comments suggested that they need additional time and a more equitable approach to the allocation of prime hours at sport fields.
- The booking system can be challenging and time consuming for groups.
- Respondents indicated that amenities at sport fields are inadequate and feel that specifically, washroom facilities are a safety issue due to the prevalence of patrons under the influence of substances. More regular maintenance and an increase in Park Ranger presence was suggested as a potential solution.
- Lighting was indicated as an ongoing issue due to burnt out lights, lack of access to field with lights and having fields where the lighting is turned off before the end of the permitted booking.
- Some organizations indicated that getting access to fields appropriate for shoulder seasons, (fields with enough drainage) is a challenge.
- Overall respondents were happy with the quality of sport fields, naming only a few fields that require maintenance.

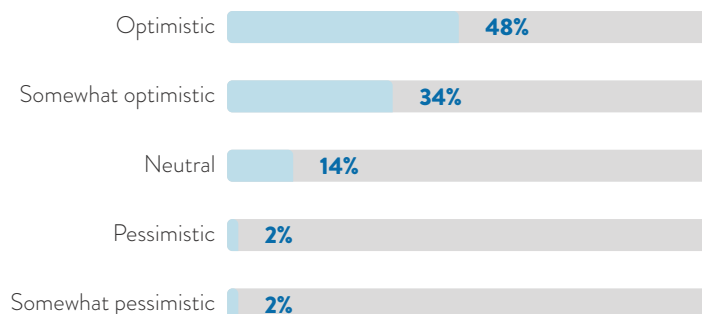
POTENTIAL PANDEMIC IMPACTS

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on sport field users. To gather a sense of the long-term impacts on sport field user groups, respondents were asked about their expectations for participation post- pandemic. Encouragingly, the majority of group representatives (72%) expect enhanced participation post-pandemic and 48% of organizations indicated that they are optimistic about their long-term outlook.

EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND ENROLMENT POST- PANDEMIC



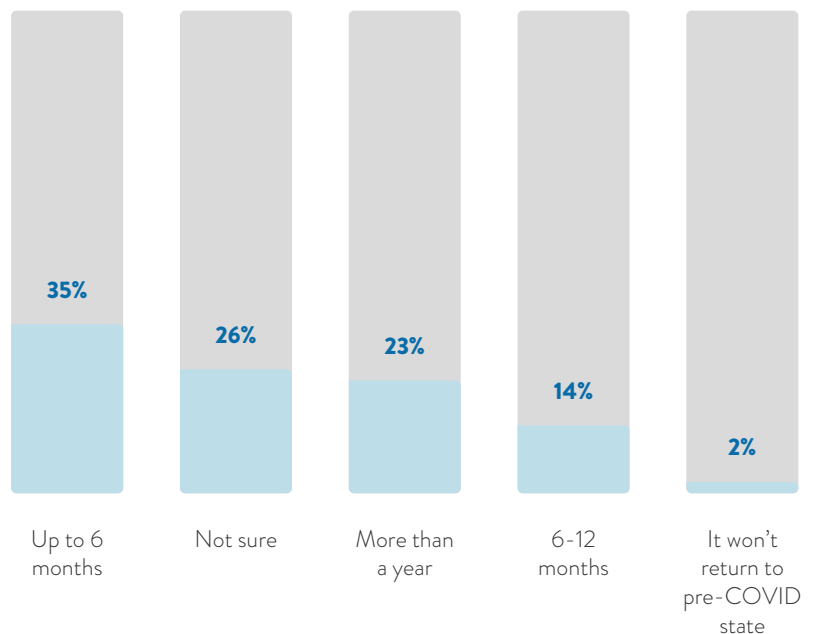
WHAT BEST DESCRIBERS YOUR ORGANIZATION'S LONG TERM OUTLOOK?





Organizations were also asked to estimate the length of time expected to return to pre-pandemic participation levels. 35% of groups indicated that it may take up to 6 months while 49% of groups believe that their organization will return to pre-pandemic participation within a year.

ESTIMATED LENGTH OF TIME TO RETURN TO PRE-PANDEMIC PARTICIPATION LEVELS



SPORT FIELD INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

Group representatives were provided a list of sport field types and asked to indicate which action the Park Board should take in the future: develop more of this sport field type, enhance or improve existing sport fields, or status quo (no change needed). As reflected in the chart, synthetic turf fields and covered fields were top priorities for development among approximately half of the responding groups.

Facilities/Amenities	Develop more of this sport field type	Enhance or improve existing sport fields	No change needed (current fields are sufficient)	Not sure
Synthetic turf fields (multiple activities)	50%	30%	9%	11%
Covered sport fields	47%	9%	21%	23%
Regulation natural surface (grass) "rectangular" sport fields that can support game and tournament play	33%	39%	12%	16%
Basic natural surface (grass) "rectangular" sport fields for community program and casual use	28%	33%	21%	19%
Synthetic turf diamonds:	24%	16%	16%	43%
Regulation baseball diamonds (i.e. with amenities to support games and tournaments)	24%	17%	12%	48%

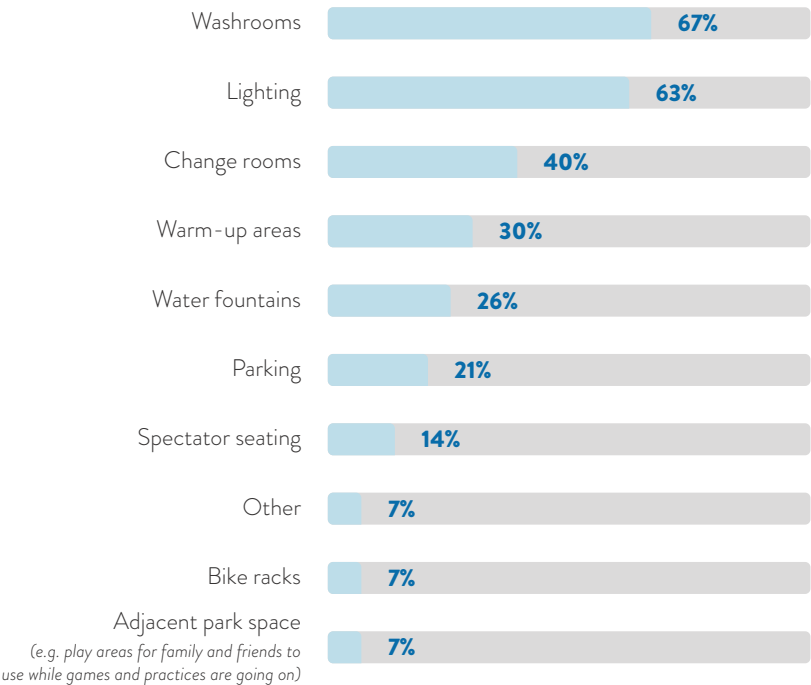
Facilities/Amenities	Develop more of this sport field type	Enhance or improve existing sport fields	No change needed (current fields are sufficient)	Not sure
Regulation softball/slo-pitch diamonds (i.e. with amenities to support games and tournaments):	23%	33%	12%	33%
Basic ball diamonds (i.e. for practices and community based use)	16%	29%	16%	40%
All weather fields (gravel fields)	10%	23%	48%	20%
Cricket pitches	8%	21%	18%	54%





When asked to indicate support amenity priorities, the top three identified by responding groups were washrooms (67%), lighting (63%), and change rooms (40%).

WHAT TYPES OF AMENITIES DO YOU THINK SHOULD BE ENHANCED OR PROVIDED IN GREATER SUPPLY AT SPORT FIELDS IN VANCOUVER?



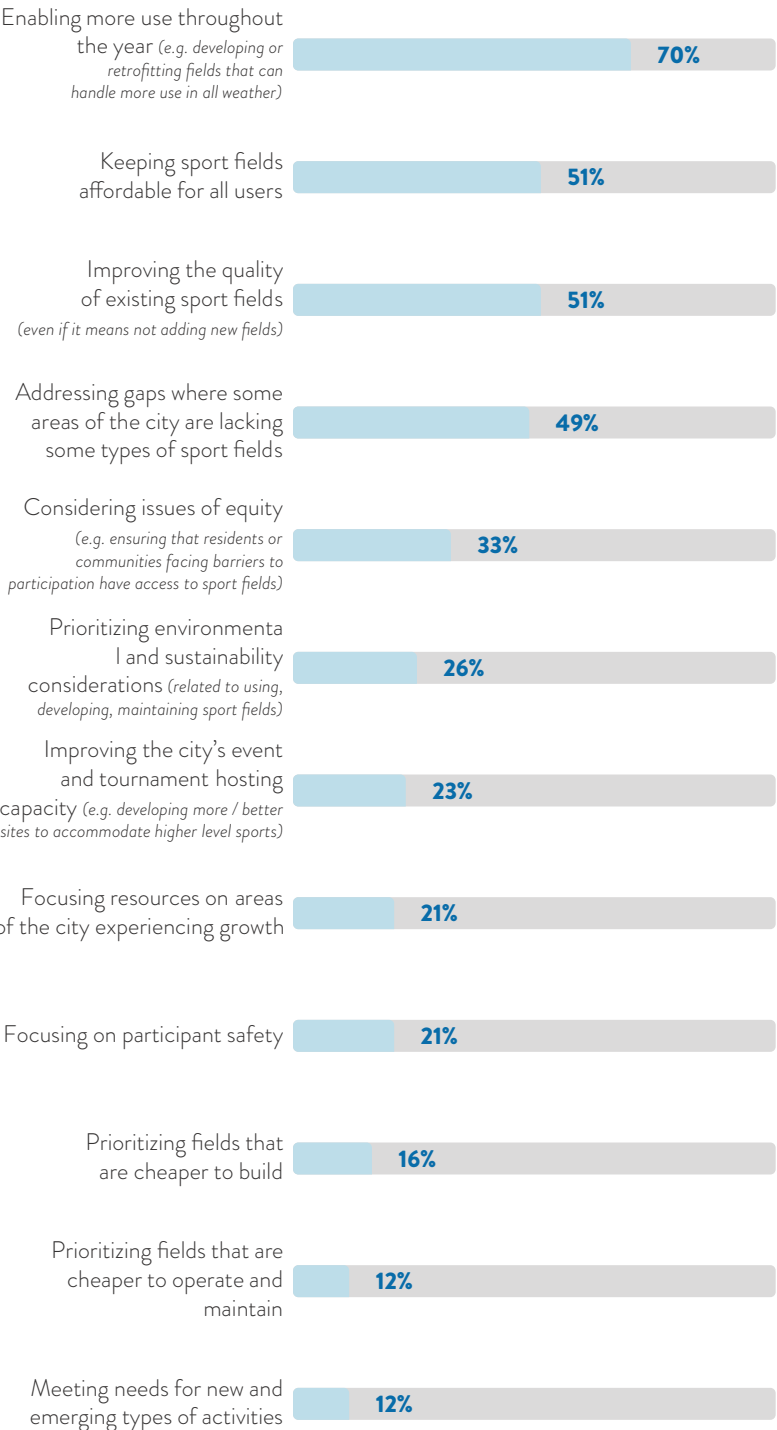


Group representatives were given space to expand on their responses to the previous questions on potential sport field priorities (types of fields and amenities). The key themes from these comments are summarized below.

- Comments reiterating that more synthetic turf fields are needed.
- Lighting would allow teams to play later into the evening during the shoulder seasons.
- Washroom and changeroom facilities are important and organizations feel that there is an inadequate supply and/or inadequate servicing of the current washroom inventory.
- A handful of comments suggested that renewal of existing synthetic turf fields (replacing the existing synthetic turf surface with a new one) should be prioritized over developing new ones.
- There is a need for more fields that can accommodate game play and tournaments.
- A number of ball groups identified the need for more diamonds that are suitable to their type of ball (e.g. baseball groups identified needs for diamonds with mounds, softball groups identified the need for diamonds with appropriate dimensions, etc.).
- Some respondents feel that Vancouver is lagging behind other communities in the region in the provision of synthetic turf and other specific sport fields types.

To further explore how priorities should be set, group representatives were given a list of potential considerations that could be used to identify priorities for investment and asked to select up to five that they think are most important. As illustrated by the graph, the majority of group representatives identified that enabling more year-round use should be a primary consideration. Affordability, improving field quality, and addressing geographic gaps were also identified by approximately half of the groups as important priority setting considerations.

**MOST IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR
SPORT FIELD CAPITAL INVESTMENT**



4. STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS



OVERVIEW & METHODOLOGY

The project team held 17 workshop style discussions with 29 participants between December 7th, 2021, and January 16th, 2022. *A list of participant organizations is available in Appendix C.*

The conversations were structured to cover 4 key topic areas: Sport and Organizational Trends; Sport Field Infrastructure in the City; Access and Participation; and Future Needs and Priorities. A synopsis of the sessions is presented as follows in this section. The synopsis represents the general themes of the discussion and does not imply consensus among participants.

DISCUSSION SESSION THEMES

TOPIC 1: ABOUT YOUR ACTIVITY

TELL US ABOUT YOUR ORGANIZATION...

Participants in the sessions represented a **variety of interests and perspectives** including sport groups, field users, and others. Some participants represented loose collections of interests others with memberships up to 6,500 members.

- **Sport & field users:** baseball, cricket, field hockey, football, volleyball, lacrosse, rugby, slo-pitch, soccer, softball, and ultimate frisbee.
- **Other perspectives:** provincial sport organizations, people with disabilities, socio-economically disadvantaged people, LGBTQ2S+ athletes, school jurisdictions, community centre associations, women and girls in sport, unstructured field and park use, and environmental interests (particularly as it relates to artificial turf).



WHAT TRENDS HAVE YOU NOTICED?

All organized groups cited the negative **impact of COVID-19 on their participation and registration** levels. This was particularly true for the first year of the pandemic (2020). Many, however, are **experiencing a “bounce back”** with upswings in registrations as the situation has changed. Some have commented that things are starting to return to “normal”.

In part due to the pandemic, many commented that the **informal and non programmed use of sport fields has increased**. Organized and structured activity declined as restrictions were implemented and due to people’s reticence to participate. As such field time became more available, enabling non structured use.

Generally, most sports commented that there has been a **steady increase in participation** on a year to year basis. Some of the largest gains have been experienced in youth and within girls’ and women’s participation.

A **shortage of field time** and limited access was cited as an increasing problem and one that is impacting growth in participation and registration. With structured activities returning to pre-pandemic levels, the limited supply of field time is becoming a trending barrier.

Some sports mentioned a **change in the traditional format of play**. These changes included reduced players per team and shorter games.

OVERALL, WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK FOR YOUR ACTIVITY AND/OR ORGANIZATION?

Most groups noted both **potential and desire for expansion** or growth (# of participants and # of teams fielded per season). The **lack of quality, available (and sport-specific) fields** have many groups worried about the future growth of their

organizations. Several participants noted that near-future plans included **expanding beyond the City** of Vancouver both to expand geographic reach of participation but also access to a larger number of high-quality, sport-specific fields.

TOPIC 2: SPORT FIELD INFRASTRUCTURE IN VANCOUVER

WHAT ARE THE STRENGTHS OF THE CURRENT SPORT FIELD INVENTORY IN THE CITY?

Strengths of the sport field inventory included both the **number and geographic spread** of fields in the city. The **quality** of existing **artificial turf** fields and amenities were also commonly cited.



WHAT GAPS EXIST IN THE CURRENT INVENTORY (TYPES OF FIELDS AND SITES, AMENITIES, ETC.)? ARE THERE ENOUGH QUALITY FIELDS?

There were two main concerns raised by groups when asked about gaps in the city’s sport field inventory: a) **field quality and maintenance**, and b) a **lack of larger centralized multi-field facilities**.

The concerns **related to the quality or maintenance** of fields and related amenities were focused on the following:

- Poorly maintained fields and amenities (including pitted or uneven field surfaces, poor grass quality or length, crumbling backstops, unkempt or unsafe washrooms, lack of equipment storage, limited lit fields, and inadequate trash and recycling facilities).
- Poor field maintenance has led to a higher incidence of injuries, including multiple serious and season-ending injuries.
- Many groups do their own regular maintenance on fields and amenities to ensure the safety and well-being of their athletes.

Several groups mentioned a strong desire to **develop formalized partnerships with the Park Board** related to field and ground maintenance and improvements – with clubs willing to take on the associated labour, resources, and costs to improve the quality of playing fields and facilities.

The second significant issue is the **lack of larger, centralized sport field facilities** with multiple fields and associated amenities (washrooms, power, water, lights, storage, wifi).

- It was noted that while there are many fields geographically spread across the city, no high-quality centralized facility exists that could host tournaments, try-outs or other multi-team or multi-sport events.
- This puts organizations at a disadvantage when it comes to tournament hosting which can be a significant source of revenue and exposure/promotion for the organization, sport, and city.



Other gaps that were identified included:

- lack of field lighting;
- shortage of artificial turf fields;
- shortage of clean and safe washroom/ changing facilities;
- inadequate equipment storage;
- limited weather protection at fields; and
- inadequate trash and recycling infrastructure and servicing.

TOPIC 3: SPORT FIELD ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION

ARE YOU AWARE OF BARRIERS TO ACCESS OR PARTICIPATION?

Groups mentioned two main barriers to participation:

- **Process** – related to the field booking and allocation system.
- **Physical** – related to lack of actual field time and quality of fields.



PROCESS BARRIERS

- **The current ‘historical booking’ and allocation process.** Many of the participants brought up instances of groups ‘hoarding’ fields to keep from losing future access, therefore preventing other groups from booking and/or using the fields as they sit inactive during the season.
- Other allocation and booking concerns include:
 - » The ‘historical’ nature of the system putting newer organizations and emerging sports (often equity-seeking groups) at a disadvantage;
 - » A lack of transparency around field bookings that limits the opportunity for groups to work together to fill gaps, create efficiencies, and limit conflicts;
 - » The limited number of ‘intakes’ per year and the antiquated use of ‘seasons’ that don’t match changes in certain sport calendars;
 - » The lack of quality field search functionality; and
 - » A lack of direct access to knowledgeable Park Board staff to work through booking and allocation issues as they arise.

PHYSICAL BARRIERS

- Not enough fields or field times available to meet the registration demands of many organizations;
- A lack of quality fields can have a negative impact on new users (particularly women and youth) by limiting playing time, increasing the risk of injury and/or increasing the sense of frustration of trying to learn and develop new skills on suboptimal playing surfaces
 - » This can lead to drop-off in participation from newer, and often more underrepresented, athletes.

WHAT CAN ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PARK BOARD DO TO MAKE SURE ALL RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO ACCESS SPORT FIELDS SPACES AND PROGRAMS?

Suggestions for increasing access included:

- **Re-imagining the allocation process** in a way that allows for greater opportunity for more users
 - considering equity in allocation in relation to gender, age, income level, ability, non-profit, for-profit orgs, and size and tenure of organizations.
- **Overhaul the historical allocation** process in a way that allows for larger more established groups and newer grass-roots groups to work together
 - so that existing organizations don’t necessarily lose heritage bookings while leaving room and opportunities for others looking for field time.
- **More formal partnerships** between the Park Board and permit holders in relation to field maintenance, upkeep, and sport promotion – particularly with equity-seeking groups.



TOPIC 4: FUTURE NEEDS AND PRIORITY SETTING

The most consistent response to the question of what the future needs and priorities of the Park Board should be was ensuring priorities are focused where the biggest impacts are:

- **Improving field quality** and maintenance: innovative solutions should be sought including groups assisting with facility development and maintenance.
- An **overhaul of the field allocation and booking system**: software upgrades, a re-imagined, equity-based allocation framework and creative solutions to limit ‘hoarding’ and encourage collaboration between user groups (e.g. an informal ‘marketplace’ where organizations could trade/share field time without affecting future access).



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: QUANTITATIVE RESIDENT SURVEY SUB- SEGMENT FINDINGS



Report

Vancouver Sports Field
Strategy Survey

Prepared for RC Strategies



DATE 2022-02-02 PROJECT NUMBER 40561-005



We know Canadians

Table of Contents

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BACKGROUND + METHODOLOGY

SPORTS FIELD SURVEY



Study Background

The Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) is developing a Sports Field Strategy that will guide investment into and management of these valued amenities.

Specifically, the Strategy will:

- ✓ Ensure sports fields are accessible and available for all residents to enjoy and benefit from
- ✓ Align priorities with future activity needs, trends, and gaps
- ✓ Provide guidance on the types of fields that are needed
- ✓ Provide the Park Board with a point of reference that can inform future decision making and resource allocation

Methodology

Leger was contracted by RC Strategies to assist with the design, data collection, and reporting for a survey with **residents of the City of Vancouver proper**.

The online survey was conducted using Leger’s online panel, LEO, from December 20, 2021, to January 11, 2022.

A total of **n=408 surveys were completed**. While a margin of error is not reported on non-random internet surveys, a comparable random sample yields a margin of error no greater than $\pm 4.9\%$ at the 95% confidence level, or 19 times out of 20.

Data was weighted according to age, gender, and region (2016 Census) to ensure representation.

Regional analysis included identification of statistically significant differences between City quadrants and districts (see Appendix, page 31, for more detail).



KEY FINDINGS

For the purposes of the survey, respondents were to consider the needs of all members of their household and their **usage prior to the start of pandemic** (March 2020).

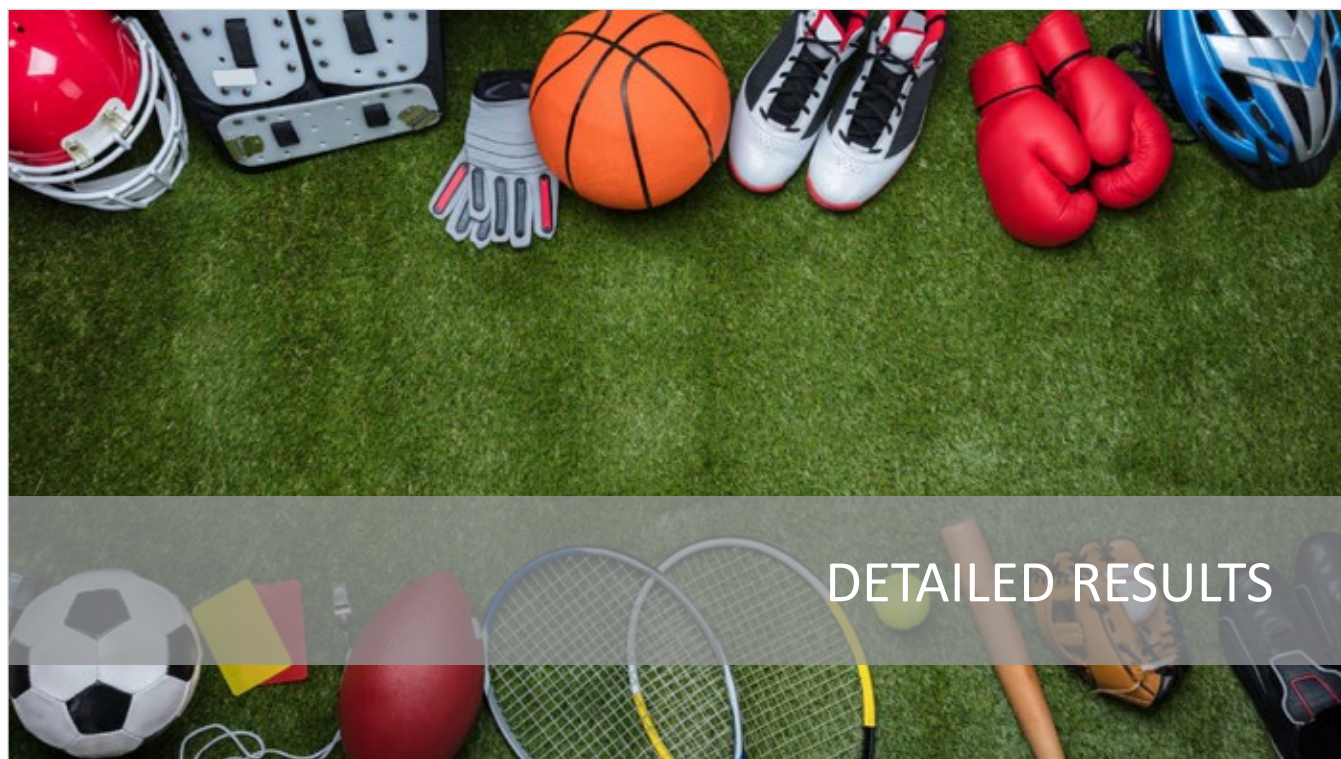
Sports Field Usage & Satisfaction

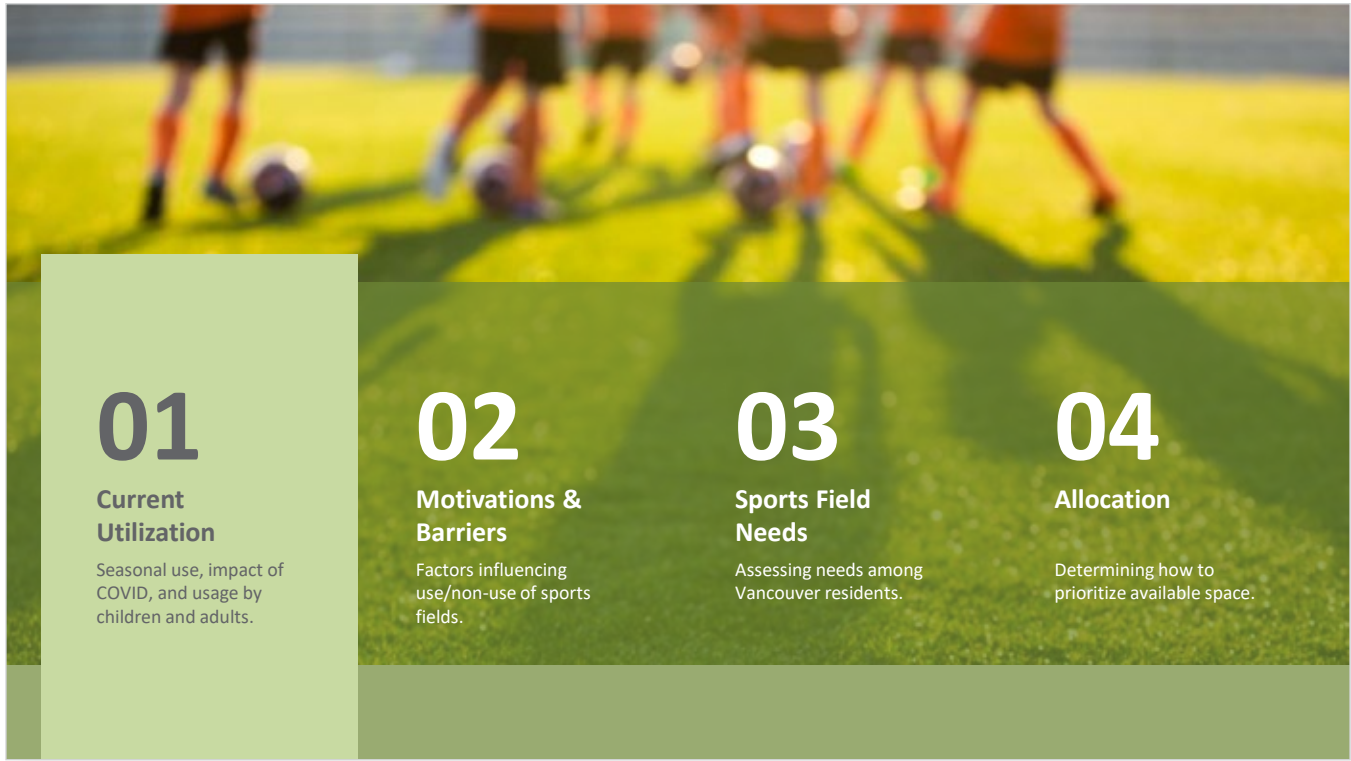
- Forty percent (40%) of respondents use sports fields in Vancouver, with 50% of users accessing sports fields more since the start of the pandemic.
- While one-third of respondents don't face barriers for accessing sports fields (34%), those who reported barriers most often cited cost (17% of all respondents) and lack of availability (15%).
 - Respondents who noted barriers most often reported that these barriers have a moderate (44%) or small (34%) impact on their use.
- Of those who use sports fields, summer (93%) and spring (83%) use is most popular; however, 49% use fields year-round.
- Soccer (75%), camp/non-field sports programs (49%), and baseball/Little League (45%) are the most popular activities for children in households that use sports fields.
- Non-field sports programs (63%) and soccer (51%) are the most popular activities for adults in households that use sports fields.
- Respondents from households that use sports fields were most often satisfied with physical accessibility (70%) and least satisfied with amenities such as washrooms, change rooms, etc. (54% satisfied).
- Proximity is by far the biggest influence for households determining which sports field to use (60%). Second to that is availability of parking (34%).

Value of Sports Fields and Field Needs

- More than 8 in 10 respondents agree that all members of the community should have equal opportunity to use sports fields (83%), that it is important for children/youth to have access to sports fields (83%), and that it is important for Vancouverites to have access to fields for casual/unstructured use (82%).
- Respondents most frequently reported that changes are needed for basic, natural surface “rectangular” sports fields for community program and casual use (53%), as well as regulation “rectangular” fields for games and tournaments (48%).
- More than 6 in 10 respondents felt that washrooms should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sports fields in Vancouver (63%).
- Affordability was the most important factor for respondents (45%), when asked what the City and Park Board should consider when setting sports field priorities.
- With regards to field time allocation, approximately half of participants felt that structured programs for youth (51%) and schools/educational institutions (45%) should receive primary access priority.
- General priority considerations for allocating sports field time included participant numbers (58% ranked this within their top 5) and provision for structured and unstructured use (55%).

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01

Current Utilization

Seasonal use, impact of COVID, and usage by children and adults.

02

Motivations & Barriers

Factors influencing use/non-use of sports fields.

03

Sports Field Needs

Assessing needs among Vancouver residents.

04

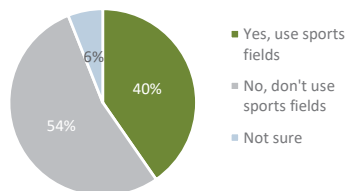
Allocation

Determining how to prioritize available space.

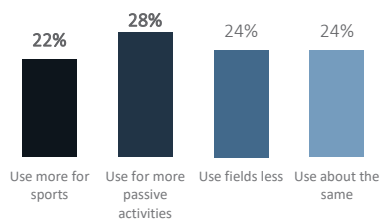
VANCOUVER SPORTS FIELD USAGE

Leger

Two in five respondents use sports fields in Vancouver – most often during the spring and summer. Half of sports field users have been using sports fields more since the start of the pandemic.



50%
use more since
COVID-19



Winter (December to February)

48% any use



Spring (March to May)

83% any use



Summer (June to August)

93% any use



Fall (September to November)

73% any use

49%

use in all four
seasons

Q1. Do you or members of your household use sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)

Q2. What best describes your household's use of sports fields in Vancouver in each of the four seasons? (n=173; Base: Respondents whose households use sports fields)

Q3. Has your use of sports fields in Vancouver changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? (n=173; Base: Respondents whose households use sports fields)

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SPORTS FIELD USAGE BY SEASON

Virtually all households (96%) use sports fields at least one season per year; just under half (49%) use sports fields only outside of winter (i.e., spring/summer/fall).

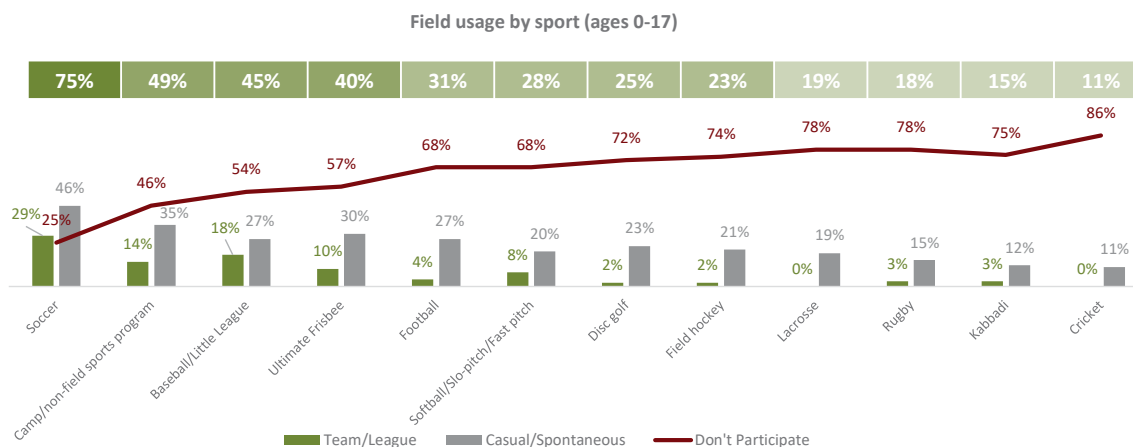
% of Respondents (n=173)				
	Winter (Dec – Feb)	Spring (Mar – May)	Summer (Jun – Aug)	Fall (Sep – Nov)
1 to 6 uses	36%	50%	48%	44%
7 to 15 uses	6%	19%	27%	19%
16 to 30 uses	5%	9%	9%	6%
31 uses or more	1%	6%	10%	4%
Any use during this season	48%	83%	93%	73%
We don't use sports fields in this season	49%	12%	4%	22%
Don't know	4%	4%	3%	5%

Q2. What best describes your household's use of sports fields in Vancouver in each of the four seasons? (n=173; Base: Respondents whose households use sports fields)

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TYPE OF USAGE BY CHILDREN/YOUTH

Children/youth who participate in field sports most often play soccer (75% team or casual), as part of a camp or non-sports program (49%), or baseball (45%).



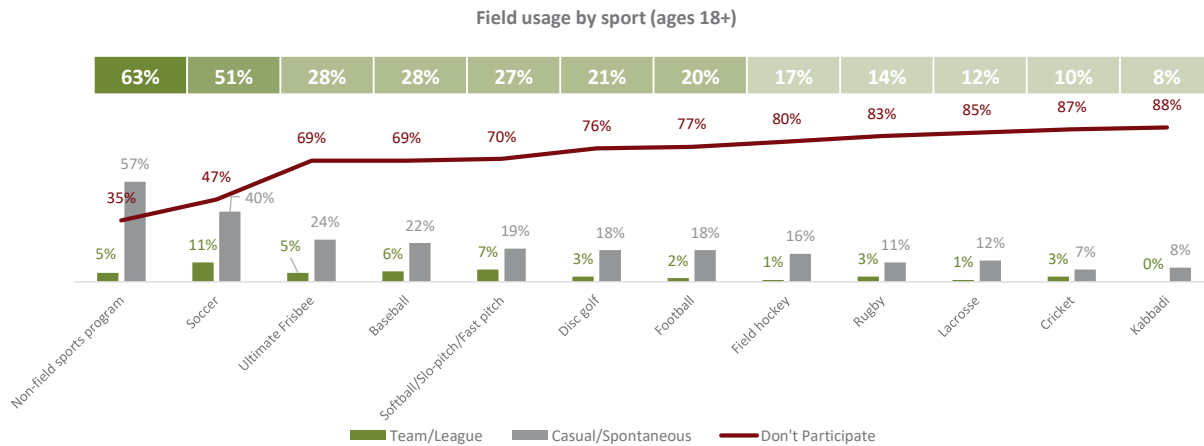
Note: Don't know responses are not shown.

Q4a. What sport activities do **children and youth** in your household participate in at sports fields in Vancouver? (n=37; households with children under 18 who use sports fields)

11

TYPE OF USAGE BY ADULTS

Adults who use sports fields most often use them for non-field sports related programs, such as a fitness program, dry-land training, walking, etc. (63%) or soccer (51%).



Note: Don't know responses are not shown.

Q4c. What sport activities do adults in your household participate in at sports fields in Vancouver? (n=173; households who use sports fields)

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TRENDS IN SPORTS FIELD USAGE

General Usage

Respondents more likely to use sports fields in Vancouver include:

- Males and younger respondents (ages 18-34 vs. 35 and older).
- Ages 25-34 are the most likely to use sports fields and, after age 34, use declines with age.
- Households with children and without seniors.
- Larger households.
- Households newer to Vancouver (living in the city for 5 years or less).
- Residents living in District 6 (those in District 5 were significantly less likely to use sports fields).

Seasonal Usage

- Those more likely to use sports fields in all 4 seasons include those aged 35-54 and households with children and without seniors.

Impact of COVID-19

- Those aged 18-54 are more likely to have increased their sports field usage as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q1. Do you or members of your household use sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)

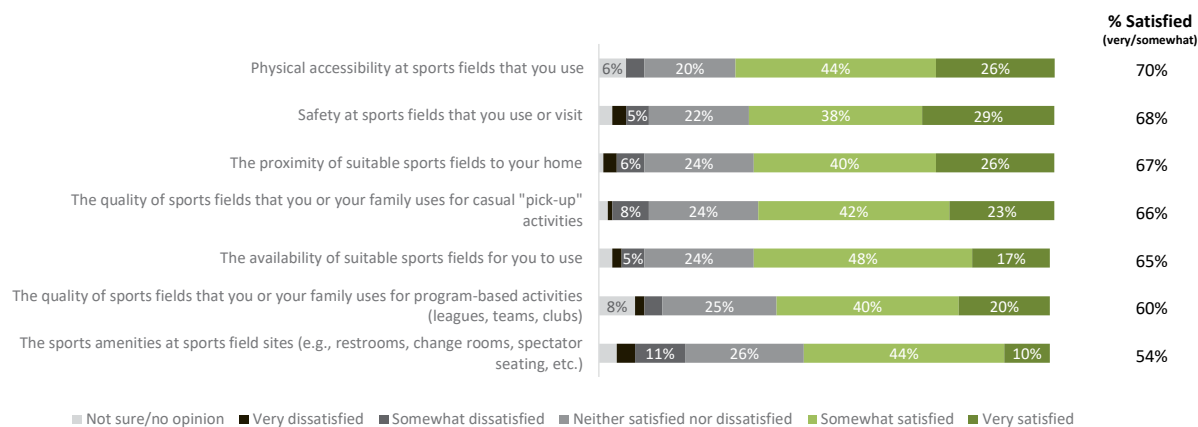
Q2. What best describes your household's use of sports fields in Vancouver in each of the four seasons? (n=173; Base: Respondents whose households use sports fields)

Q3. Has your use of sports fields in Vancouver changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic? (n=173; Base: Respondents whose households use sports fields)

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SATISFACTION WITH SPORTS FIELDS

Respondents are most satisfied with physical accessibility (70%), safety (68%), and proximity (67%) of the sports fields they use.



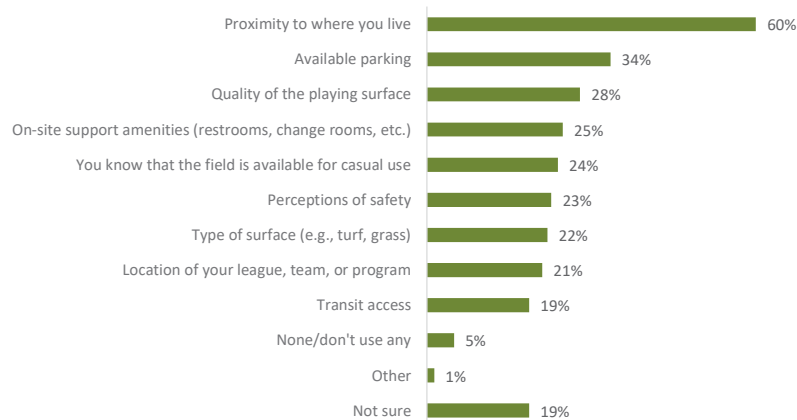
Q5. How would you rate your level of satisfaction with the following aspects of sports fields in Vancouver? (n=173; households who use sports fields)
 *Labels not shown where responses are less than 5%.

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MOTIVATION FOR USING SPORTS FIELDS

Proximity (60%) is the biggest influence for households determining which sports field to use, followed by availability of parking (34%).

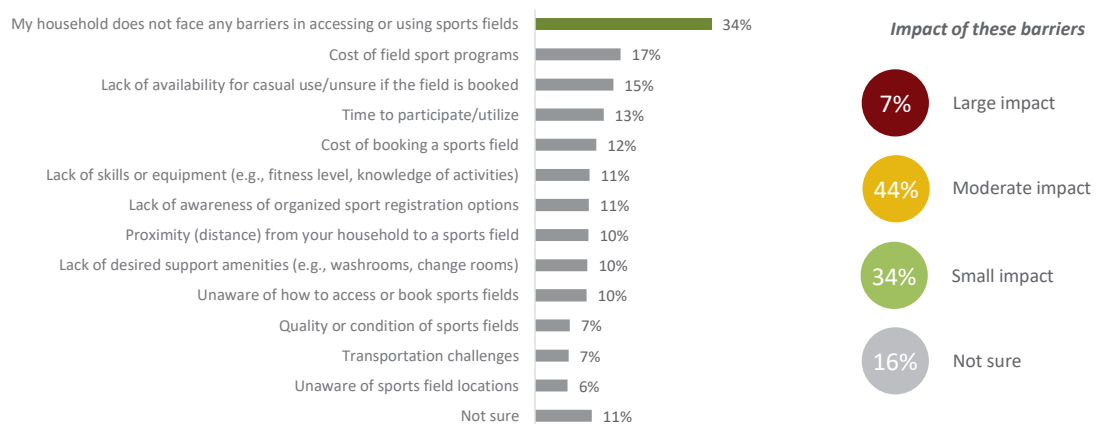


Q6. What factors influence which sports fields you use? (n=408)
*Multiple responses

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BARRIERS TO USING SPORTS FIELDS

One-third of respondents don't face any barriers in terms of accessing sports fields (34%). The biggest barriers are cost (17%) and lack of availability (15%).



Q7. What limits the ability of you and members of your household from accessing and using sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)

*Multiple responses; responses only shown for mentions by more than 2% of all respondents.

Q7b. Considering the issues that have limited your household's use of sports fields, how much of an impact have they had? (n=213; Base: Respondents who selected at least one barrier in Q7).

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TRENDS IN FACTORS FOR USING SPORTS FIELDS

Factors Influencing Use

- Younger respondents (ages 18-34) were more likely to indicate that which field they use is influenced by proximity to where they live and their location of their league, team or program.
- Women, those with children, and/or larger households (3+ members) were more likely to indicate that available parking and the type of the playing surface are influences when deciding which sports field to use.
- Residents in Districts 5, 6, and 7 were more likely to indicate that proximity to where they live is a factor influencing their use of sports fields.
- Residents in Districts 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 were more likely to indicate that on-site support amenities (e.g., restrooms, change rooms) is a factor influencing their use.
- Residents in District 1 were significantly more likely several other Districts to report that availability for casual use is an influential factor, as is type of surface (e.g., turf, grass).

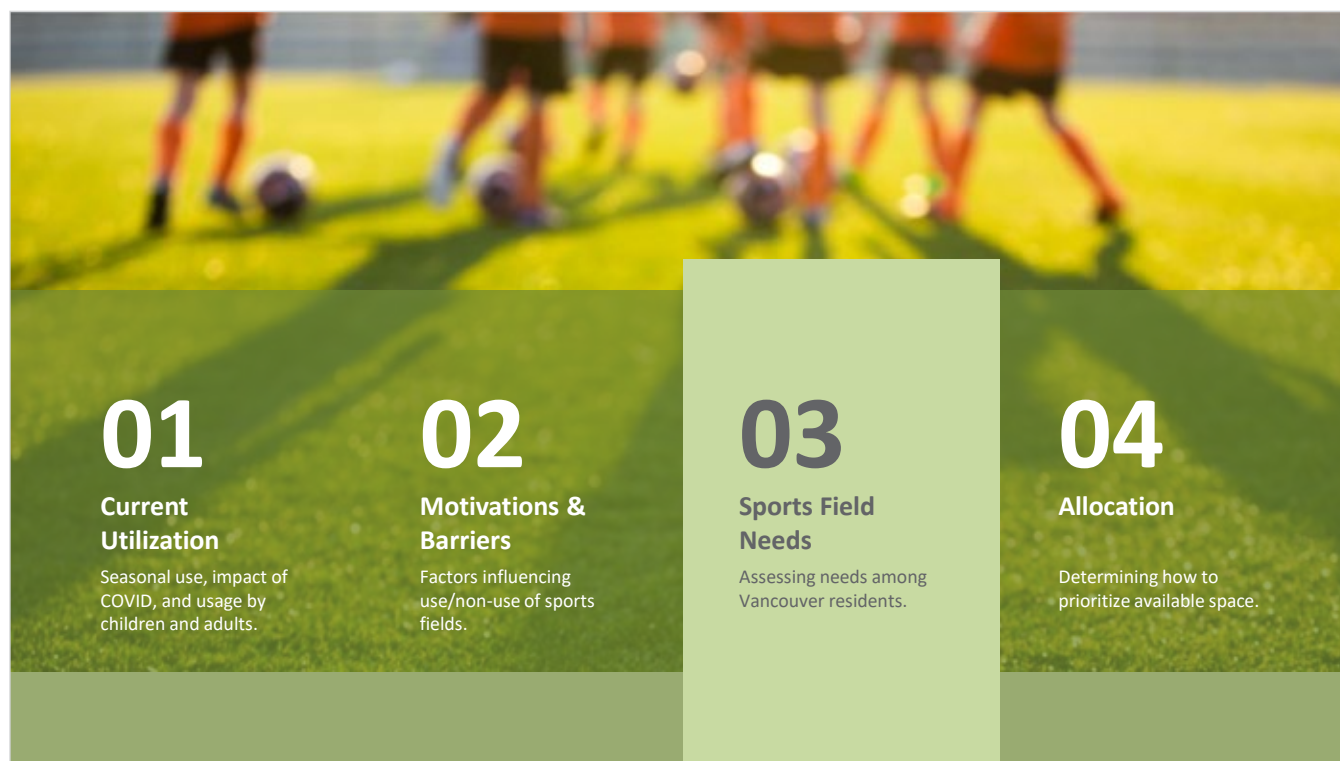
Barriers to Use

- Ages 55+ and those without disabilities were more likely to indicate they face no barriers when it comes to accessing and using sports fields in Vancouver.
- Residents in District 2 (and/or Area 4) were more likely to report that their household does not face barriers in accessing and using sports fields.
- Lack of awareness (e.g., of organized sport registration options; how to access or book sports fields) were more frequently cited as barriers by those living in Area 1 and/or District 3.
- Cost – as well as proximity/distance from their home – was more frequently cited as a barrier by those in Area 3 and/or Districts 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8.
- Younger respondents and those with larger households were more likely to indicate that cost is a barrier and lack of awareness of organized sport registration options.

Q6. What factors influence which sports fields you use? (n=408)

Q7. What limits the ability of you and members of your household from accessing and using sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)

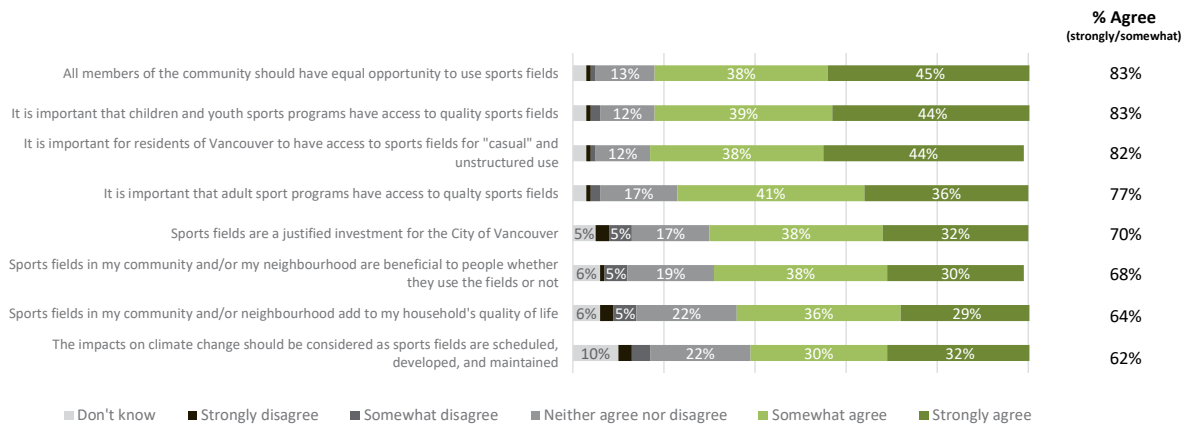
18



SPORTS FIELD PERCEPTIONS AND VALUES



Respondents agree that access to sports fields is important for members of the community (83%), children and youth (83%), and Vancouverites in general (82%).



Q8. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (n=408)
*Labels not shown where responses are less than 5%.

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TRENDS REGARDING PERCEPTIONS AND VALUES



Differences regarding values and needs for sports fields:

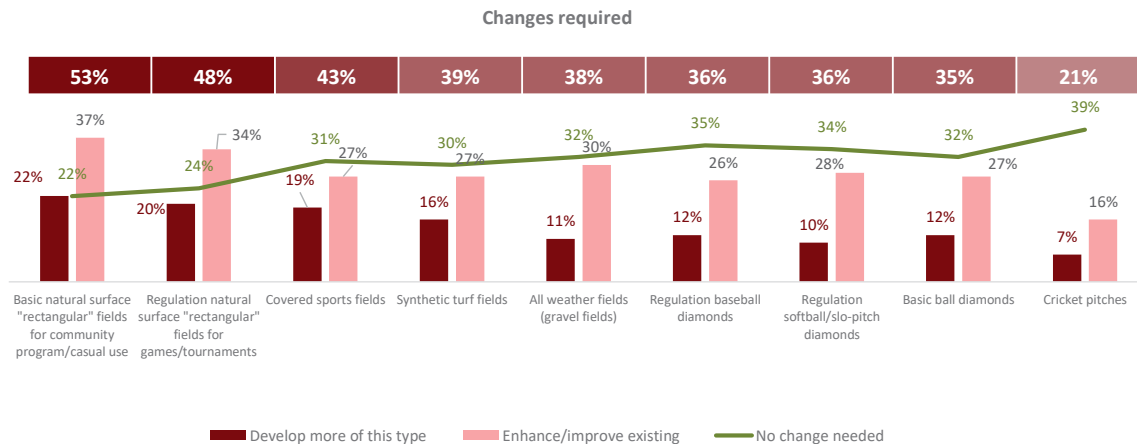
- Younger respondents (ages 18-34), those without disabilities, and households with higher incomes (\$150,000 or more) were more likely agree that sports fields in the community add to their household's quality of life.
- Larger households and households with children were more likely to agree that sports fields in their community are beneficial to people whether they use the fields or not. Households with children were also more likely to agree that the impacts on climate change should be considered as sports fields are scheduled, developed, and maintained.
- Older respondents (ages 55+) were more likely to agree that all community members should have equal opportunity to use sports fields, and that it is important for residents to have access to sports fields for "casual" and unstructured use.
- Residents living in Districts 4 and 6 were more likely to agree that sports fields are a justified investment for the City of Vancouver.

Q8. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (n=408)

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CHANGES NEEDED TO SPORTS FIELDS

Respondents most frequently reported that changes are needed for basic, natural surface "rectangular" sports fields for community program and casual use (53%) and regulation "rectangular" fields for games and tournaments (48%).

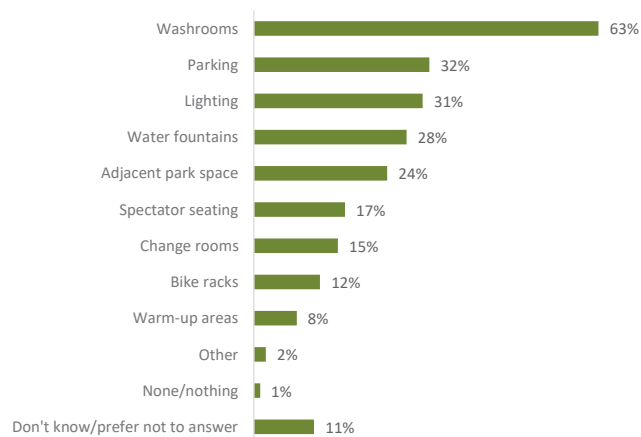


Q9a. For each of the following types of sports fields, please indicate the future action you would like to see the Park Board take (respondents permitted to select "develop more" and "enhance/improve" for each item as necessary) (n=408).

22

AMENITIES NEEDING ENHANCEMENT

More than 6 in 10 respondents felt that washrooms should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sports fields in Vancouver (63%).

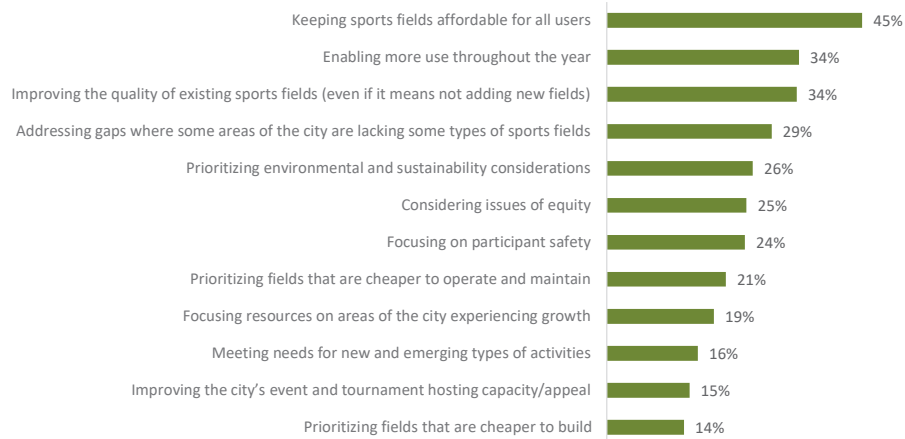


Q10a. What types of amenities do you think should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)
*Multiple responses

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SETTING PRIORITIES

Nearly half of respondents (45%) cited affordability as the biggest priority for sports fields in Vancouver.



Q11. Because the City and Park Board have limited resources, they need to identify priorities about what will receive investment. Of the following, what should be most important when setting sports field priorities? (n=408)
*Multiple responses (select up to 5)

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TRENDS IN NEEDS

Field Improvements

- Ages 18-34 were more likely to feel that all types of fields require change, whether enhancing existing fields or developing more fields (excluding regulation baseball diamonds, for which there were no meaningful differences by age).

Amenity Improvements

- Women, seniors, and households with lower incomes (less than \$60,000) were more likely to feel that washrooms either needed to be enhanced or provided in greater supply. Seniors and lower-income households were also more likely to indicate a need for water fountains.
- Larger households expressed more of a need for more or improved parking.
- Younger respondents were more likely to indicate a need for spectator seating and warm-up areas.
- Residents living in Districts 4 and 8 were more likely to feel there is a need for more or enhanced washrooms.
- Residents in Districts 7 and 8 were more likely to feel there is a need for more or enhanced parking.
- Residents in Districts 2 and 7 were more likely to report a need for more or enhanced lighting.

Setting Priorities

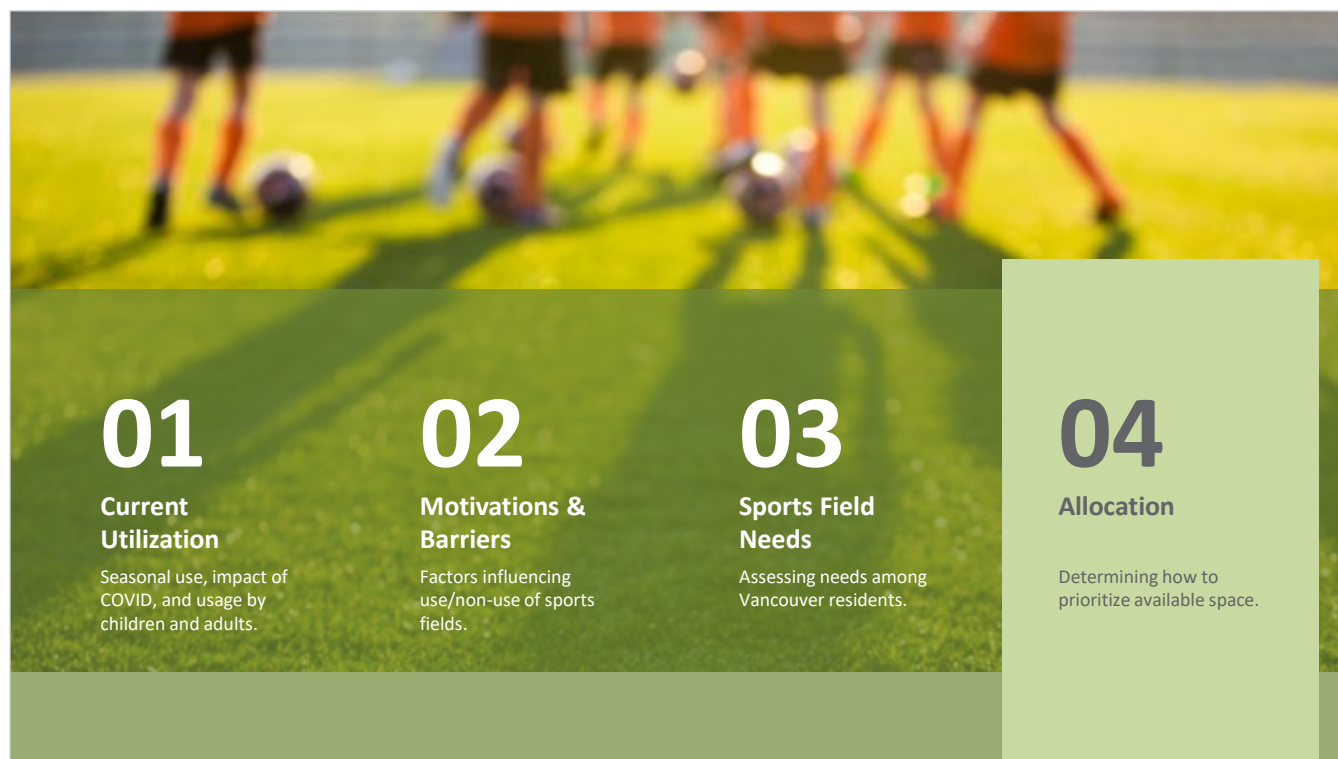
- Affordability, lower-cost maintenance, and enabling year-round use were more frequently identified as priorities by ages 55+.
- Younger respondents (ages 18-34) were more likely to feel that it is important to improve the city's event and tournament hosting capacity.
- Women were more likely to feel that environmental/sustainability considerations should be prioritized, as well as issues of equity.
- Residents living in District 1 were more likely to feel that improving the quality of existing fields and addressing gaps in sports fields should be given priority.

Q9a. For each of the following types of sports fields, please indicate the future action you would like to see the Park Board take (respondents permitted to select “develop more” and “enhance/improve” for each item as necessary) (n=408).

Q10a. What types of amenities do you think should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sports fields in Vancouver? (n=408)

Q11. Because the City and Park Board have limited resources, they need to identify priorities about what will receive investment. Of the following, what should be most important when setting sports field priorities? (n=408)

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ALLOCATING SPORTS FIELDS



Half of respondents felt that structured activities for youth (51%) and field time access for schools should receive priority status (45%).

	% of Respondents (n=408)			
	Primary Access Priority	Secondary Access Priority	Minimal/No Access Priority	Don't Know
Structured sport/programs/leagues for youth	51%	24%	8%	17%
Schools/educational institutions	45%	31%	9%	15%
Sports tournaments and competitions (likely to include a mix of both local and non-local participants)	34%	39%	10%	18%
Structured sports programs/leagues for adults	31%	43%	9%	17%
Not-for-profit non sport use (e.g., social agencies, community centre associations)	25%	44%	13%	18%
Unstructured/casual use by individuals and groups ("pick-up" games)	22%	40%	21%	17%
Private bookings by families, groups, and individuals	9%	40%	32%	18%
Commercial/business use – large enterprise	6%	27%	47%	20%
Commercial/business use – small enterprise	5%	38%	38%	20%

Q12. Please identify if the following types of activity categories should receive Primary, Secondary, or Minimal/No Access priority to Vancouver sports fields. (n=408)

Primary Access = Priority access to facility space at times and facilities that are optimal for their activities.

Secondary Access = Some access to facility time; access to preferred times and facilities would be dependent on first fulfilling the needs of the Primary Access activities.

Minimal/No Access = Only considered for facility time once the needs of Primary and Secondary priority users are accommodated.

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PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS

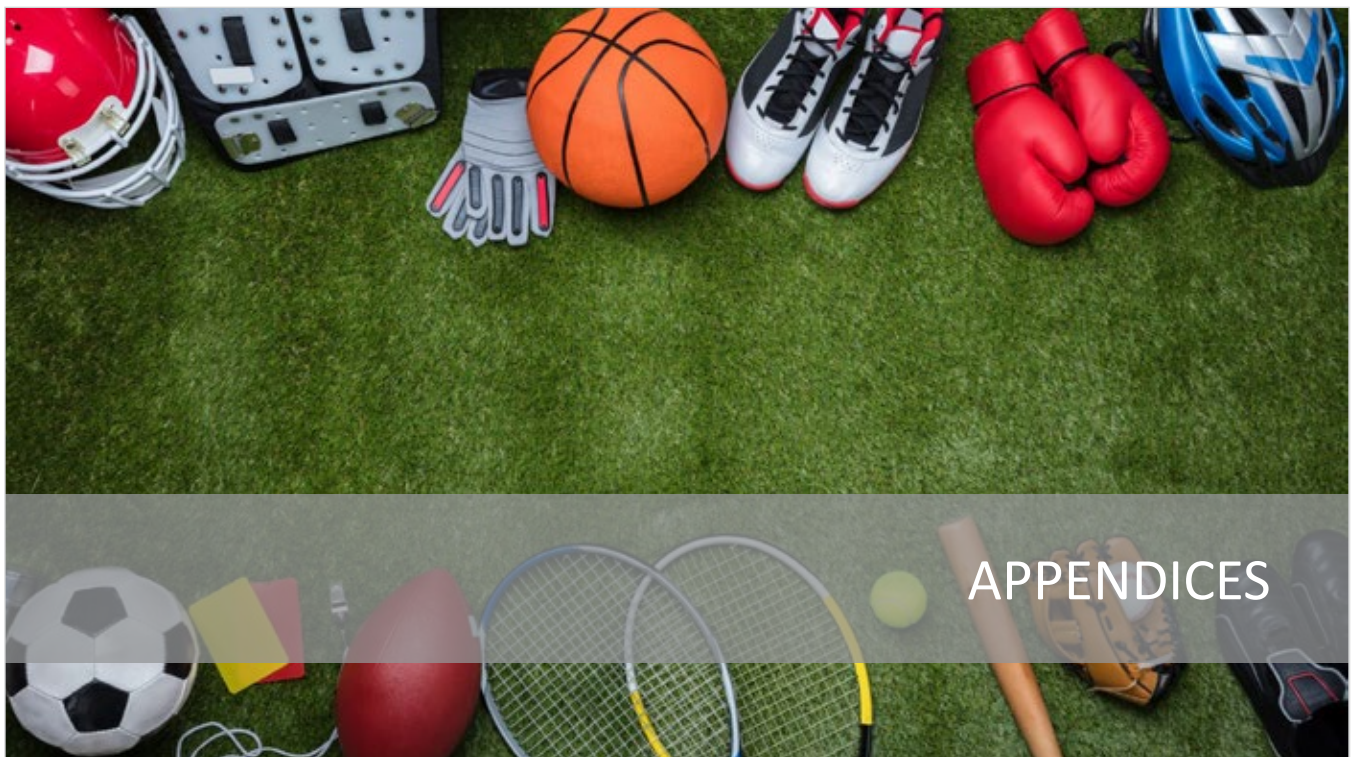
Top priority considerations for allocating sports field time included participant numbers (58% placed this within their top 5) and provision for structured and unstructured use (55%).

% of Respondents (n=408)			
	Top Priority	Top 3 Priorities	Top 5 Priorities
Provision for structured and unstructured use	16%	36%	55%
Match use with field type (e.g., high skill/higher competition gets “better” fields)	12%	27%	42%
Participant numbers	11%	37%	58%
Diversity in participants	11%	29%	48%
Non-profit status	9%	27%	41%
Diversity in activities	7%	33%	53%
Ability of groups to pay	6%	17%	31%
Growth trends in participation	6%	27%	50%
Historical bookings	3%	15%	32%
Don't know	18%	18%	18%

Q13. Of the following, please rank them in order of priority. A ranking of “1” means that is the most important consideration when allocating time on sports fields. A ranking of “2” means it is next most important and so on. (n=408)

*Percentage of respondents who selected each response as the highest priority.

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RESPONDENT PROFILE

RESPONDENT PROFILE

	% of Population*	% of Respondents (n=408)
Subsegment 1: Quadrant (see right)		
Quadrant 1	19%	17%
Quadrant 2	13%	10%
Quadrant 3	30%	39%
Quadrant 4	38%	34%
Subsegment 2: District**		
District 1: Kitsilano/West Point Grey	9%	10%
District 2: Arbutus-Ridge/Dunbar-Southlands/Kerrisdale/Shaulhnessy/Musqueam	9%	5%
District 3: Downtown & West End	17%	24%
District 4: Fairview/Mount Pleasant/Riley Park/South Cambie	15%	16%
District 5: Marpole/Oakridge/Sunset	12%	10%
District 6: Grandview-Woodland/Hastings-Sunrise/Strathcona	12%	9%
District 7: Kensington-Cedar Cottage & Renfrew-Collingwood	16%	13%
District 8: Killarney & Victoria-Fraserview	10%	11%
Other	-	2%

*District population percentages based on a total population of 632,891 (as per District Populations; documentation available separately).

**Note that the identified 'districts' do not perfectly align with the 4 quadrants. Areas that overlap are detailed below:

Quadrant 1 overlaps with: District 3; **Quadrant 2** overlaps with: District 6; **Quadrant 3** overlaps with: Districts 4, 5, 7, and 8; **Quadrant 4** overlaps with: Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5.

City Quadrants for Analysis





RESPONDENT PROFILE cont'd

	% of Respondents (n=408)
Gender	
Woman	52%
Man	48%
Other	1%
Age	
18 to 24	9%
25 to 34	24%
35 to 44	17%
45 to 54	17%
55 to 64	15%
65 to 74	13%
75+	5%
Percent of Households with Members Ages...	
0 to 9 years old	6%
10 to 19 years old	16%
20 to 39 years old	49%
40 to 59 years old	49%
60 to 79 years old	36%
80 and older	7%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	2%
Average household size	2.3 people

	% of Respondents (n=408)
Years in Vancouver	
Less than 1 year	1%
1 to 5 years	10%
6 to 10 years	7%
More than 10 years	81%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	1%
Households with Disabilities	
Yes, someone has a disability/disabilities that impact mobility	9%
Yes, someone has a disability/disabilities that do not impact mobility	4%
No disabilities in the household	83%
Prefer not to answer	4%
Household Income	
Less than \$20,000	3%
\$20,000 to less than \$40,000	13%
\$40,000 to less than \$60,000	16%
\$60,000 to less than \$80,000	17%
\$80,000 to less than \$100,000	11%
\$100,000 to less than \$150,000	19%
\$150,000 or more	12%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	8%

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RESPONDENT PROFILE (cont'd)

	% of Respondents (n=408)
Respondent Ethnicity	
European (e.g., British Isles, French, Greek)	43%
Asian (e.g., Chinese, Filipino, Korean)	42%
South Asian (e.g., Punjabi, Indian, Pakistani)	5%
Canadian (unspecified)	3%
Indigenous (First Nations, Metis, Inuit)	2%
Oceanian (e.g., Australian, New Zealander)	2%
Central/South American (e.g., Mexican, Salvadorian, Argentinian)	1%
Middle Eastern (e.g., Lebanese, Iranian, Syrian)	1%
Caribbean (e.g., Cuban, Jamaican, Bajan)	<1%
Other	<1%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	4%
Children in Household	
Yes	15%
No	85%
Seniors in Household	
Yes	37%
No	63%

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OPEN-ENDS

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: ACTIONS FOR THE PARK BOARD



<i>Q9b. Please use the space provided to expand on your responses to the previous question.*</i>	% of Respondents (n=408)
Need to properly maintain fields (e.g., poor quality, run-down, need to clean-up)	7%
Need multi-purpose fields/not just for sports	4%
Don't use sports fields/play sports often (or at all)	3%
Need covered areas for various weather conditions	3%
We have enough fields/no need for expansion	3%
Update existing facilities first	3%
Poor use of taxpayer money/added costs not beneficial	2%
Prefer natural fields/don't like synthetic turf	2%
Sports fields/sports are an important part of the community	2%
More sports fields	1%
I like sports fields/good experience on sports fields	1%
Our local sports fields are underutilized/needs to be used more	1%
Prefer synthetic turf fields/need more turf areas	1%
Good for health/fitness	1%
Need better lighting	1%
Other	4%
None/nothing	4%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	63%

*Q9a. For each of the following types of sports fields, please indicate the future action you would like to see the Park Board take. You may select both "develop additional" and "enhance/improve existing" if it is appropriate.

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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: AMENITIES NEEDED

Q10b. Please use the space provided to expand on your responses to the previous question.*	% of Respondents (n=408)
Washroom accessibility is poor/unavailable	8%
Limited parking availability/difficult access to parking	5%
Poor lighting	2%
Adjacent park space is lacking/unavailable	2%
Poor spectator seating/not enough seating	2%
Water fountain access is poor	2%
Secure bike racks are lacking/need more bike racks	2%
Provide better amenities (unspecified)	2%
Safety/security is needed	1%
Washrooms/change rooms should be cleaned	1%
Lack of dog parks	1%
Need to properly maintain fields (e.g., poor quality, run down)	1%
Change room access is lacking	1%
Washroom out of toiletries (e.g., toilet paper, soap, etc.)	1%
Good amenities/good facilities	1%
Parking is too expensive/need free parking	1%
Keep costs low	1%
Water at fountain not clean	1%
Other	5%
None/nothing	6%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	66%

Note: Responses less than 1% are not shown. *Q10a. What types of amenities do you think should be enhanced or provided in greater supply at sports fields in Vancouver? (select up to 3)

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FINAL COMMENTS


Q14. Please use the space below to provide any additional comments on current needs or future planning for sports fields in Vancouver.	% of Respondents (n=408)
Keep cost of entry low/low-income options	3%
Multi-purpose field options/not just for sports	2%
Good the way it is right now	1%
Improve accessibility (unspecified)	1%
More sports fields	1%
Equal access to all participants/diversity initiatives	1%
Need covered areas for various weather conditions	1%
Need to properly maintain fields (e.g., poor quality, run down)	1%
Adjacent park space is lacking/unavailable	1%
More hard courts	<1%
No need to spend additional resources on fields	<1%
Better management for booking fields	<1%
Washroom accessibility is poor/unavailable	<1%
Other	3%
None/nothing	7%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	79%

*Responses shown for 1% or more of all respondents. The full list of coded and verbatim responses are available separately.


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APPENDIX B: USER GROUP/PERMIT HOLDER QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONDENTS

Respondent Organizations

Vancouver Strikers

GoalsBC

Little Kickers Vancouver SW

Play Vancouver

Dunbar Little League

Metro Women's Soccer League

Vancouver Storm

Jericho Baseball Little League
Association

Connaught Men's Fastball

Learn and Play Ball Academy

Exceleration Triathlon Club

ICSF

Croatia SC Juniors

Royal City Soccer Club

Westside Warriors

Respondent Organizations

Fusion FC

Knight Soccer League

Vancouver Ultimate League Society

South Vancouver Little League

Top Flight Flag Football

TFC Volleyball

West End Slo-Pitch Association

Vancouver Athletic Football Club Adult
Teams

Vancouver Whitecaps FC

FBL Softball

Killarney Youth Soccer Association

BC Rugby

Vancouver Minor Softball Association

Vancouver Rugby Union

Free Kick

Respondent Organizations

Last Man Stands BC

Out For Kicks

Twilight Softball League

Notre Dame Secondary

Foulies Softball Group

Faly Academy Soccer

BC School Sports

Van City FCA

Amazon

Crosstown Slo-pitch League

Greater Vancouver Softball League

West End Co-Ed Slow-pitch League

Vancouver Minor Lacrosse

Urban Rec

Special Olympics BC

Vancouver Hawks FHC

APPENDIX C: STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSION SESSION PARTICIPANTS

Organizations	Number of Representatives
MoreSports	1
Minor Lacrosse	1
Hawks Field Hockey	1
Scribes Rugby	1
Metro Women’s Soccer	1
Trojans Football	1
Vancouver Ultimate League	3
Vancouver Youth Soccer	1
Vancouver Sport Field Federation	1
Meraloma Cricket	2
Vancouver Girls Softball	1
Volleyball BC	1
Youth Softball	1
Women’s Fastball	1
Youth Baseball	1
Van Gay Volleyball	1

Organizations	Number of Representatives
Canucks Autism	1
Britania Community Centre Association	1
Dunbar Community Centre Association	1
Clinton Park Neighbourhood Group	3
Douglas Park Community Centre Association	1
St. Francis Assisi School	1
Unaffiliated Individuals	1

