



TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH

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December 19, 2018

via email: tosborne@rdn.bc.ca
Tom Osborne, General Manager
Recreation and Parks
Regional District of Nanaimo
830 Island Hwy W
Parksville BC, V9P 2X4

Qualicum Beach Community Park All-Season Field Upgrade

Dear Mr. Osborne

The Town of Qualicum Beach kindly requests an RDN letter of support for a grant application to help fund the upgrade of two playing fields in the Qualicum Beach Community Park from natural grass to synthetic turf. The Town is applying for grant funding from the "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - Community, Culture, and Recreation Program". A letter from the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN), indicating regional support, would strengthen this application.

The proposed turf field project is one of many regional priorities identified in the RDN's 2018 Recreational Master Plan; the Town would be pleased to fund and construct this regional asset if the grant application is successful. The Town anticipates that the upgraded fields will be heavily used by local youth sports organizations on a year-round basis, and the project is considered to be a step toward the Town and RDN goal of being more youth and family friendly.

Following is a brief description of the project.

- The proposed project would upgrade the west half of the upper playing fields in the community Park to an all-season turf surface.
- This portion of the fields will be realigned to create two full-sized turf soccer pitches running east-west. Accommodating the extra field will require removing one of the baseball diamonds; however, there would still be three baseball fields in the upper fields, one of which will have an all-season surface.
- The field will be designed to accommodate multiple configurations of soccer, football and baseball. Other sports will also be considered further in the design process, such as lacrosse, field hockey and rugby.
- The cricket pitch would be relocated further to the east.

- As a part of the project, the lighting system would be upgraded to LED and the control system would be changed to a token-based system, rather than a remotely managed system.
- The estimated cost of the project is between \$3,500,000 and \$4,000,00. Grant funding is available up to 73.33% of the eligible project costs (40% Government of Canada, 33.33% Province of British Columbia).
- Local organized sports groups support this proposed turf upgrade and at least one group will be making a significant financial contribution toward the project. The Town will be responsible for the remaining financial contribution.

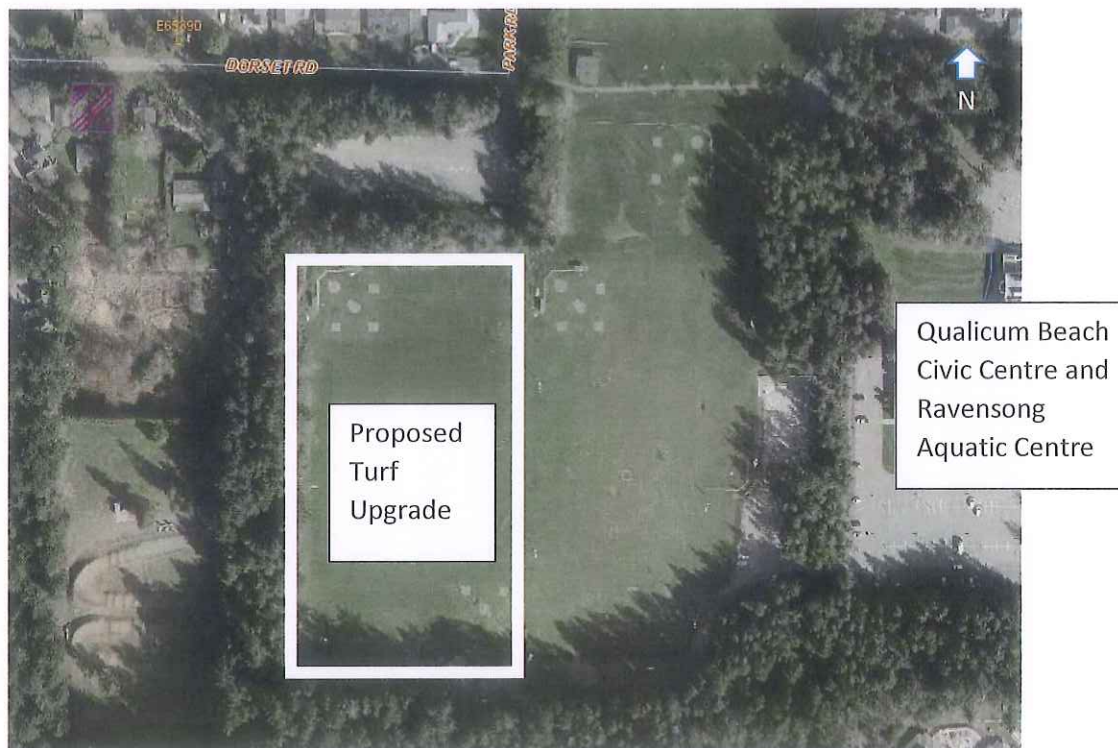


Figure 1: Project Location

Please consider providing a letter of support prior to the grant application deadline of January 17, 2019. If that timeline is not feasible, please do so at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me.

Kind regards

Luke Sales, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning and Community Development

