

Buena Vista Outdoor Basketball Court Upgrade Project

ISSUE

The purpose of this report is to seek City Council approval, under Council Policy C09-027, Gifts and Memorial Program, for Buckets & Borders to upgrade the outdoor basketball court in Buena Vista Park.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services recommend to City Council that:

1. The request by Buckets & Borders to upgrade the outdoor basketball court in Buena Vista Park, be approved;
2. The City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate agreements and that Her Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute the appropriate agreements under the Corporate Seal; and
3. The donation of this upgrade by Buckets & Borders be accepted by the City of Saskatoon.

BACKGROUND

Buckets & Borders started a project in 2015 to document basketball culture around the world. Their Purpose, Mission and Vision is:

“...improving communities and bringing people together through basketball by restoring outdoor basketball courts, telling impactful stories, and working collaboratively with communities to fulfil our mandate”.

Since 2020, Buckets & Borders, a non-profit organization, has been using basketball as a means to improve communities and bring people together. Since then, they have completed over 10 courts across Canada and abroad, including ones in Regina and Pinehouse Lake.

In 2023, Buckets & Borders in collaboration with Momentum, teamed up to create the “Mo Buckets” capsule and clean up the Buena Vista Park, in Saskatoon. Through this initiative, they hosted a Community Jam at the outdoor basketball court located in Buena Vista Park.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

In the winter of 2024, Buckets & Borders approached the Buena Vista Community Association with a proposal to upgrade the current outdoor basketball court facility in Buena Vista Park as part of their 25 by 25 initiative. The goal of this initiative is to build 25 courts by the end of 2025. With their connection to Buena Vista in 2023, Buckets & Borders are interested in upgrading the existing court in Buena Vista Park.

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The proposed upgrade of the basketball court in Buena Vista Park is provided in Appendix 1 and will include the following:

- A slight expansion of the existing court to a size of approximately 74' x 50';
- A new layer of asphalt, as well as an acrylic surface coating to extend the life of the asphalt;
- A vibrant and colorful treatment on the court surface, designed and applied by local youth; and
- The attached diagram of the court surface shows conceptual designs, with the final design to be submitted and approved by Administration; and
- Replacement of the two existing basketball standards.

Administration has reviewed and supports the request by Buckets & Borders to upgrade the outdoor basketball facility in Buena Vista Park under [Council Policy C09-027 Gifts and Memorial Program](#) (Policy). As per the Policy, the request meets the following requirements:

- A contribution made to improve public parks, open space, and/or civic facilities with no business advantage sought or expected in return for support;
- The donor will be responsible for the cost of the item, its installation and any applicable on-site recognition;
- Contributions may be located in designated areas in parks as long as they do not conflict with the overall design and purpose of the space for which they are intended and/or do not conflict with any other established agreements; and
- Regular maintenance will be provided by the City to keep the contribution in a safe and useable condition.

As per the Policy, City Council approval is required for all contributions with a total value to the City of Saskatoon (City) greater than \$100,000.

Construction and Gift Agreement

Subject to City Council approval, the City and Buckets & Borders would enter into a Construction Agreement, which would see Buckets & Borders assume responsibility for all aspects of the design, procurement, and construction. Upon completion, the upgrades would be gifted to the City, in-kind, valued at approximately \$100,000.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Buckets & Borders will fully fund the upgrades and has estimated the cost to complete the outdoor basketball court upgrade to be approximately \$100,000. They would also be responsible for all costs in securing any permits as part of the construction process. There are no financial implications to the City.

The Facilities Management Department has existing operating budget for the maintenance of the basketball court in Buena Vista Park. As a result, there is no incremental operating budget impact with this project.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

Subject to City Council approval, City Solicitors will draft a construction and gift agreement between the City and Buckets & Borders. Administration will work with Buckets & Borders to ensure communication regarding the project and timelines to the surrounding community and Buena Vista Community Association.

APPENDICES

1. Buckets & Borders – Work Scope Overview

REPORT APPROVAL

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Approved by: Celene Anger, General Manager, Community Services

SP/2025/RCD/PDCS/Buena Vista Outdoor Basketball Court Upgrade Project/mt