



Vancouver Society for Promotion of Outdoor Pools

History of community support for Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool

For supporting documents contact swim@vancouveroutdoorpools.org

1. 2001 Park Board commissioned an aquatic needs study, the Aquatic Services Review. The study showed strong support for replacing Mount Pleasant Pool and for increasing the capacity of aquatics facilities in general.
2. February 2002 Park Board Staff recommends permanent closure of Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool when it wears out or when the Mount Pleasant Community Centre (MPCC) is relocated to #1 Kingsway, contrary to public support for replacing the pool.
3. Summer 2003 the ad hoc 'Save Mount Pleasant Pool' Committee (Pool Committee) is formed and petitions are circulated to save the Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool (MP Pool).
4. October 7, 2003, around 30 Pool Committee members and interested citizens present 1,626 petition signatures to the Planning and Environment Committee of Park Board and speak in favour of MP Pool. Staff is directed to undertake a design and budget review of park development options for MP Park after the MPCC moves to #1 Kingsway.
5. PB Staff formed a volunteer Planning Review Group made up of community volunteers. Over several months the group developed three options for the redevelopment of Mount Pleasant Park that were presented at an Open House in February 2005.
6. February 2005: Feedback received at the Open House indicated overwhelming support (over 80%) for replacing the outdoor pool (Option #3).
7. Park Board Draft Capital Plan allocated \$4 million for the redevelopment of MP Park to include a replacement pool.
8. Park Board Staff report to the PB on the support for a replacement pool on May 3, 2005.
9. May 2005 three Public Information Meetings are held regarding the 2006-2008 Draft Capital Plan. 23% of all speaker feedback received at these meetings is regarding MP Pool, in support of Option #3 to replace MP Pool. 46% of all written comments in the Public Information Process are about the rebuilding of MP Pool.
10. June 23, 2005 report by PB staff indicating that the majority of responses from the Capital Plan Consultation were in support of the Olympic Legacy practice rink, the replacement of Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool, and the VanDusen Garden Building.
11. September 2005 the final Capital Plan reduces the funding for MP Park to \$1 million for the redevelopment of the park, MP Pool is not funded.
12. September 13, 2005 several hundred Mount Pleasant residents parade from MP Pool to City Hall for the Special Council Meeting on the Draft Capital Plan.
13. September 19, 2005 PB unanimously passes a motion in support of retaining an outdoor pool in MP Park, and in favour of redeveloping two outdoor neighbourhood pools, overriding the recommendations of the 2001 Aquatic Services Review.

14. September 20, 2005, PB General Manager Sue Mundick delivers a memo to City Council at the Capital Plan hearing to inform Council of the PB motion of September 19.
15. The following motion is put forward to Council and Carried: THAT Council encourage the Park Board to review options for keeping the Mount Pleasant outdoor pool open at least until completion of the proposed replacement for Percy Norman Pool at the new Hillcrest Centre and request the Board to report back on the additional costs that would be necessary in the Operating Budget.
16. October 20, 2005 PB Aquatic Services Renewal Plan Update to approve a process to re-evaluate the recommendations of the Aquatic Services Review with respect to the retention of MP Pool and to identify possible external funding sources. Discussion point #2 on page 4 directs staff to work with the community to identify external sources of funding, and discussion point #3 on page 4 directs staff to revise the recommendations of the Aquatic Services Review without retroactively changing the original report.
17. October 31, 2005 PB motions carried to clarify the intention to rebuild MP Pool, for the community to immediately begin fundraising, and to clarify that money would not be available until the 2009-2011 Capital Plan at the earliest. Staff is directed to meet with the community by January 2006 and to report back to the board on funding opportunities by March 2007.
18. January 2006 the Pool Committee and MPCCA submit a detailed list of potential funding sources for rebuilding MP Pool. All requests to meet with staff on funding opportunities are denied.
19. March 20, 2007 Staff makes a recommendation to PB Planning and Environment Committee to demolish MP Pool and build a water spray park. Many community stakeholders attend the meeting in support of rebuilding MP Pool as per 2005 motions. A PB committee member suggested that a public consultation should take place to ascertain what type of facility is needed.
20. February 2008 PB Draft 2009-2011 Capital Plan includes an additional \$750,000 (additional to the \$1m from the 2006-2006 Capital Plan) for the MP Park renewal. Staff suggests that this may be used for a water spray park.
21. September 2008. After the community outright rejects the \$750K allocation for a water spray park, \$0 allocated to Mount Pleasant Park in 2009-2011 Capital Plan.
22. June 1, 2009 a PB meeting is held at MPCC and draws a large crowd of advocates for the MP Pool project. Over 6,000 petition signatures in support of a replacement pool are presented to PB.
23. Extensive public consultation is conducted by Mustel Group over the future of Mount Pleasant Park August 2009 through December, 2009. An overwhelming majority support the replacement of MP Pool (Option #2).
24. December 7, 2009 Staff recommends a plan for Mount Pleasant Park that allows for the future development of an outdoor pool when funds become available.
25. December 10, 2009 Mustel Group presentation to PB Planning and Environment committee with staff recommendation as in item #24, above.
26. December 14, 2009 staff recommendations from public consultation to develop a plan for MP Park that allows for the future development of an outdoor pool when funds become available adopted by PB.
27. June 21, 2010 MP Park Open House exploring options for MP Park renewal.
28. September 22, 2010 Public Open House soliciting further input on MP Park renewal features.

29. 83% of participants supported the inclusion of a new outdoor pool in Mount Pleasant Park over any other park feature.
30. October 20, 2010 Staff recommendation to approve the proposed MP Park upgrade as described in Appendix A.
31. January 25, 2010 'Vancouver Society for Promotion of Outdoor Pools' incorporated under the Society Act.
32. November 1, 2010 PB unanimously approves the proposed MP Park upgrade that includes a site for a 'Future Pool' when funds become available.
33. 19 September 2011 MP Pool not included in 2012-2014 Capital Plan, no funds currently available for the replacement of Mount Pleasant Pool.