



Vancouver Society for Promotion of Outdoor Pools

A History of Community and Park Board Support for Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool

(from the most recent activity to the beginning of activity in 2001)

A great deal has transpired since then...

- **April 26, 2022**, City of Vancouver Manager and Finance present the 2023-2026 Draft Capital Plan. Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool rebuild is **NOT** included in the Draft Capital Plan.
At same meeting, motion by Council person De Genova passes unanimously "THAT Council direct staff to report back to Council prior to the final capital plan with recommendations to fully fund and deliver the replacement of the outdoor pool in Mount Pleasant".
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20220426/documents/regu20220426min.pdf>
Vancouver Park Board will now make decision on whether to fund the pool from their allocated Capital Plan budget at the Park Board Special Meeting June 27, 2022.
- **Vansplash**. Vancouver's most extensive aquatic review to date, a three year process, concluded with *a clear recommendation to replace Mount Pleasant swimming Pool per the 2010 Park Redevelopment design*.
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2019/20191028/DECISION-VanSplash-VancouverAquaticsStrategyReportBack-20191028.pdf>
- **Submission made for funding in Previous Capital Plan (2019-2022). Appendix E. Page 3. Mount Pleasant Pool considered within the draft Capital Plan. Not funded pending outcome of Vansplash.**
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2018/20180719/REPORT-ParkBoard2019-2022CapitalPlan-APPENDIXE-EngagementResults-20180719.pdf>
- **May 30, 2016. PARK BOARD MOTION EXPEDITING OUTDOOR POOLS**
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2016/20160530/MOTIONDECISION-ExpeditingNewOutdoorPools-20160530.pdf> THAT the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation direct staff to explore quick start strategies, including the reallocation of existing capital funding, to expedite the construction of new outdoor pools in the City of Vancouver.
- MPCCA Submission for funds for swimming pool in 2015-2018 Capital Plan [Capital Plan Submission 2015-2018.pdf](#) - Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool Not Funded.
- **19 September 2011** MP Pool not included in 2012-2014 Capital Plan.
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2011/111017/2011MinutesSept19.pdf>
- **November 1, 2010** PB unanimously approves the proposed MP Park upgrade that includes a site for a 'Future Pool' when funds become available.
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2010/101101/MountPleasantParkUpgrade.pdf>
- **October 20, 2010** GM Memo Staff recommendation to approve the proposed MP Park upgrade as described in Appendix A. <https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2010/101101/MountPleasantParkUpgrade.pdf>
- **September 22, 2010** Public Open House soliciting further input on MP Park renewal features.
83% of participants supported the inclusion of a new outdoor pool in Mount Pleasant Park over any other park feature
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- **June 21, 2010** MP Park Open House exploring options for MP Park renewal.
- Vancouver Society for Promotion of Outdoor Pools registered as Society under the BC Societies Act to complement and expand upon work undertaken with the Mount Pleasant Community Centre Association.
<https://vancouveroutdoorpools.org/>
- **December 14, 2009** Staff recommends a plan for Mount Pleasant Park that allows for the future development of an outdoor pool when funds become available.
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2009/091214/index.htm>
- **Fall 2009, Pool and Community Centre buildings are demolished by City of Vancouver!**
- **July 2009, Last Pool Party event draws hundreds to celebrate and reflect on the history of the pool.**
- **December 10, 2009 Mustel Group presentation to PB Planning and Environment Committee with staff recommendation to develop Mount Pleasant Park with an outdoor swimming pool.**
<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2009/plan091210/MinutesPEDec10.pdf>
- 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).
- **June 1, 2009** a PB meeting was held at MPCC and drew 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.
- **September 2008.** After the community outright rejected the \$750K allocation for a water spray park, \$0 was allocated to Mount Pleasant Park in the 2009-2011 Capital Plan.
- **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.
- **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 attended 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.
- **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.
- **May 2005** three Public Information Meetings were 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 city wide Public Information Process are about the rebuilding of MP Pool.
- **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. https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/051205/mom_oct31_05.pdf

- **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.
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/051031/aquatic_services_renewal_plan_update.pdf
- 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. Report Reference 1. G
https://council.vancouver.ca/20050920/documents/regmin_000.pdf
- **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.
<https://council.vancouver.ca/20050920/documents/rr1i.pdf>
- **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.
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/051003/mom_sept19_05.pdf
- **September 13, 2005** several hundred Mount Pleasant residents parade from MP Pool to City Hall and speak to the Special Council Meeting on the Draft Capital Plan.
https://council.vancouver.ca/20050913/documents/scmin_000.pdf
- **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.
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/050627/capital_plan_draft_allocation.pdf
- **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.
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/050627/capital_plan_draft_allocation.pdf
- Park Board Staff reported to the PB on the support for a replacement pool on May 3, 2005. Note discussion comment: because the potential for pool breakdown is a significant risk, the rebuilding of Mount Pleasant Pool needs to be prioritized due to the urgency of the project. **It was noted that other worthwhile projects do not face the same risk if they are not funded in the next capital plan.**
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/pe050503/mom_pe_may3_05.pdf
- Park Board Draft Capital Plan allocated \$4 million for the redevelopment of MP Park to include a replacement pool based on high demand in city wide Capital Plan Feedback.
https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/050627/a2_capital_plan_draft_allocation.pdf
- **February 2005:** Feedback received at the Open House indicated overwhelming support (over 80%) for replacing the outdoor pool (Option #3).
- 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. https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2005/pe050215/mom_feb15_05_pe.pdf

- **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. https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2003/pe031104/mom_oct7_03.pdf
- **Summer 2003** the ad hoc 'Save Mount Pleasant Pool' Committee (Pool Committee) was formed and petitions were circulated to save the Mount Pleasant Outdoor Pool (MP Pool).
- **March 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. <https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2002/020311/aquatics1.pdf>
- **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 aquatic facilities in general. The outcome of the 2001 survey indicated that the majority of respondents favoured replacing outdoor pools as they wear out, were strongly opposed to closing the outdoor pools, felt that the city should invest in outdoor swimming pools, and there was strong agreement that everyone benefits from public swimming and that pools are essential to the quality of life in Vancouver. <https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2002/020311/aquaticsc.pdf>
Despite this, the report recommended closing outdoor pools as they wear out and not replacing them. https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2001/011105/aquatic_app.pdf

