



## City Invests \$8 Million to Revitalize Topaz Park

**Date:** Friday, January 24, 2020

**For Immediate Release**

VICTORIA, BC — The City will invest nearly \$8 million to construct a skateboard park and bike park, and replace the artificial turf sports field at Topaz Park as part of a long-term renewal plan for the park.

“We know that spaces for physical activity keep people healthy and also connected with their communities. That’s why we’re making this significant investment in Topaz Park,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “The skate and bike skills parks are long-awaited by youth and families. And the artificial turf field is an amenity that will be enjoyed and used by people of all ages. We thank the community for their input in helping to shape the plans for Topaz Park.”

The new skate park will be approximately 3,000 square metres in size, similar to the Victoria West Youth Park. The final design will be developed through a collaborative design process involving future users and is intended to create a space that is inviting and suitable for all skill levels and styles.

Approximately 6,000 square metres in size, the new bike park will provide a fun and challenging riding experience for all skill levels and will serve as an all-ages social hub for the cycling community. Existing trees in the area will be integrated into the design of the facility.

The new artificial turf sport field facility will include a full-size soccer pitch, softball field, a mini multi-purpose field, sport lighting, and other amenities such as dugouts, player shelters, a backstop and spectator seating. The softball field will replace one that will be displaced by construction of the new skate park.

The \$7.47 million in funding will be drawn from a combination of sources including the Building Infrastructure Reserve Fund and the Artificial Turf Field Reserve Fund.

It is anticipated that the design and construction will be completed in two years and be open to the public in the summer of 2021.

Located in the Hillside-Quadra neighbourhood, Topaz Park is the City’s third largest park and the main recreational park in Victoria. It is home to the City’s only artificial sport field, and includes other amenities such as sport fields, a lacrosse box, leash-optional dog area, fitness equipment and a playground. It is also a popular outdoor special event venue, hosting a range of festivals, sports tournaments, and outdoor events each year.

For more information, visit: [www.victoria.ca/parks](http://www.victoria.ca/parks)

**ATTACHMENT: Draft Design Concept for Topaz Park**

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