

DATE OF MEETING JULY 15, 2020
AUTHORED BY MIKE STRAIN, SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER
SUBJECT SERAUXMEN STADIUM FENCING

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report:

To provide Council with an update on the status of the Serauxmen Stadium Fencing.

BACKGROUND

In early 2020 the 24' tall outfield fence at Serauxmen Stadium (also known as the Green Monster) was identified as a safety concern due to its visual condition. In April of 2020, a condition assessment was completed for all of the Stadium's wooden fences and it was identified that the 24' tall outfield fence was at the end of its service life and in danger of collapse, creating a life safety issue requiring immediate maintenance or replacement. It also noted that 60 of the 145 fence posts for the remaining 8' fence are in need of replacement. Further inspection of the Green Monster, by City crews, determined that the wood had degraded to a point where maintenance was not an option.

In 2018, an architect specializing in sports facilities was engaged to develop an overall master plan for the stadium, called the "Serauxmen Stadium Improvement" Plan. This report was amended in June 2020 to reflect current priorities with input from user groups. The improvement plan assessed existing conditions, identified required improvements for safety, operability, and functionality, and recommended other improvements that would bring it up to standard with similar facilities in other communities. The plan includes the replacement of the outfield fence and addition of safety netting as its first priority.

DISCUSSION

The June 2020 improvement plan amendment, estimates the hard costs to remove and replace all fencing and add netting at \$453,000. To address the immediate concerns relating to life safety, \$200,000 has been added to the 2020 budget for the removal and replacement of the outfield fence and addition of safety netting. The tender for the Bastion Street Parkade came in under budget and funding has been reallocated to address the safety concerns at Serauxman Stadium.

The Green Monster fence has now been taken down to a height of 8' from its original 24'. The design is currently underway for the replacement of all stadium fencing as well as the addition of safety netting.]

CONCLUSION

Once design is complete, the project will proceed with removal and replacement of the outfield fencing and safety netting this fall. Replacement of the infield fencing and safety netting will be added to the Financial Plan.

Staff will bring forward the Serauxmen Stadium Improvement Plan to a future Council meeting.

SUMMARY POINTS

- The condition of the 24' tall outfield fence was identified as an immediate safety concern and had to be removed.
- \$200,000 has been added to the 2020 budget for the removal and replacement of the outfield fence and addition of safety netting.
- The design is currently underway for the replacement of all stadium fencing as well as the addition of safety netting.
- It is anticipated that removal and replacement of the outfield safety fencing and addition of safety netting will begin this fall.

Submitted by:

Mike Strain
Senior Project Manager

Concurrence by:

Richard Harding
General Manager, Parks, Recreation &
Culture

Laura Mercer
Director, Finance

Art Groot
Director, Facility and Parks Operations