



March 23, 2025

Dear: Rocky View County (RVC) Council, Rocky View Recreation, Springbank Members and Residents

Subject: Clarification and Updates on the Proposed Multi-Sport and Indoor Turfed Training Field Facility at Springbank Park For All Seasons

We are writing to expand upon and clarify information to the community about the proposed Multi-Sport and Indoor Turfed Training Field Facility at Springbank Park For All Seasons (SPFAS), which will enhance and improve recreational opportunities for Springbank residents. It is fully aligned to the work initiated with past Master Plans, RVC's South Springbank Community Facilities Business Case and Stakeholder engagement processes.

Comprehensive Facility Features

The proposed facility is designed to serve a wide range of community needs. In addition to the fitness and wellness spaces, it will include:

- **Multi-Use Sports Courts:** Suitable for pickleball, volleyball, basketball, badminton, and activities space for groups such as the Air Cadets, etc.
- **Indoor Walking and Running Track:** Providing year-round exercise options.
- **Full-Sized Gymnasium:** Meeting competition hosting specifications and accommodating various sports and events.
- **Indoor Turfed Training Field:** Supporting field sports regardless of weather conditions.
- **Spectator Viewing Area:** Located on the second floor, it can seat up to 190 people, allowing families and community members to support local athletes.

Additionally, the second floor is structurally prepared to incorporate a fitness training area with strength and cardio equipment in the future, ensuring the facility can adapt to evolving community fitness needs.

Alignment with Community Feedback

Multiple past surveys indicate a preference for a fitness/wellness facility, and the comprehensive design of the proposed facility aligns with and expands upon these desires. The inclusion of diverse sports and fitness amenities reflects a broader community interest in multifunctional spaces that cater to various activities and age groups. Activities like court sports, pickleball and space for a wide variety of indoor practices, are all in demand, and a Multi-Use Sports and Indoor Turf Training Field facility is a high priority for the community.

Community Hall/Event Centre Plans

Rocky View County (RVC) has recognized the need for a Community Hall/Events Centre. Following the decommissioning of the Springbank Community Hall in 2015, RVC has initiated plans for a new



Community Hall/Event Centre on 75 acres located between Range Road 33, Springbank Road, and Huggard Road. The proposed facility with features yet to be finalized includes a great hall, two multipurpose rooms, and a studio space. The estimated opening date is 2027, pending funding and further planning. rockyview.ca

Collaborative Planning

A **South Springbank Stakeholders Advisory Committee** was formed by RVC in 2022, made up of members from RVC council and staff, SPFAS, the Springbank Community Association, SCA (AKA My Springbank Your Community Association), the Springbank Heritage Club, an Elbow Valley representative, Schools representative and public representatives, as well as RVC's commissioned Hargroup Management Consultant. The Committee met several times, and a proper planning/engagement process was followed.

Both SPFAS and RVC have engaged the same Hargroup Management Consultants for planning and feasibility studies, ensuring that the proposed facilities meet community needs and are financially viable. The SPFAS Business Case for the Multi-Sport and Indoor Turf Training Field Facility includes a detailed operating budget, projecting a modest annual surplus once the facility is fully operational.

Community Support and Communication

The proposed facility has garnered support from over 2,200 community members, including major sports organizations, mid-sized groups, local schools, and the School District. This support should not be trivialized as they are the groups that will use the facility. SPFAS has kept the community informed through newsletters like the Park Patter, which reaches approximately 3,500 households. Additionally, the Springbank Community Association (SCA) distributes newsletters to 1,000+ Springbank Residents households, and utilizes platforms like its Network Neighborhood and Web page to engage residents.

Consideration of Existing Facilities

The potential impacts on the existing ball diamonds, named in memory of Al Fitzsimmons and Don Quinn, are included in the planning process. Should the new facility's footprint affect these diamonds, plans are in place to relocate and refurbish them, with potential placement on RVC's 75 acres north of SPFAS, adjacent to the planned Community Hall/Event Centre. Memorial features, such as the back stops mounted wall boards with epitaphs, will be preserved and reattached to the relocated diamonds.

Budgeting – The current proposal is estimated at a savings of \$6.8 MLN on the proposed Multi-Sport and Indoor Turf Training Field Facility, compared to the initial budget represented in the RVC South Springbank Community Facilities Plan Business Case (Dec 2022).

Ongoing Collaboration

SPFAS and the Springbank Community Association (SCA) are actively collaborating to ensure both the Multi-Sport and Indoor Turf Training Field Facility and the new Community Hall/Event Centre



complement each other, maximizing recreational opportunities and operational efficiency for the community.

We are excited to move forward with these two (2) facilities and hope this information clarifies the scope, planning, and community support for the proposed facilities. Your continued engagement and feedback is vital as we work towards enhancing the recreational and social infrastructure in Springbank.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Frank Walsh".

Frank Walsh
President
Springbank Park For All Seasons

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stu Pritchard".

Stu Pritchard
President
Springbank Community Association

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Todd Muir".

Todd Muir
General Manager
SPFAS



SPRINGBANK HERITAGE CLUB

244168 RANGE ROAD 33
CALGARY, ALBERTA T3Z 2E7
Phone: 403-242-9350

Email: springbankhc@telus.net

Website: <https://www.springbankheritageclub.com>

March 19, 2025

Springbank Park for All Seasons
32224A Springbank Road
Calgary, Alberta
T3Z 2L9

Attention: Todd Muir, General Manager

Re: Support of New Multi-Purpose Facility Proposal

Please accept this letter as our official support of the proposed multi-purpose facility at the Springbank Park for All Seasons (SPFAS).

The said SPFAS Facility Expansion will help meet the diverse recreational needs of the Springbank growing community. Our Heritage Club members will benefit from many of the enhancements of this new complex (walking track, pickleball courts, etc.).

We look forward to seeing the valuable role this complex will provide.

All the best,

SPRINGBANK HERITAGE CLUB

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice Lambert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Janice Lambert
President

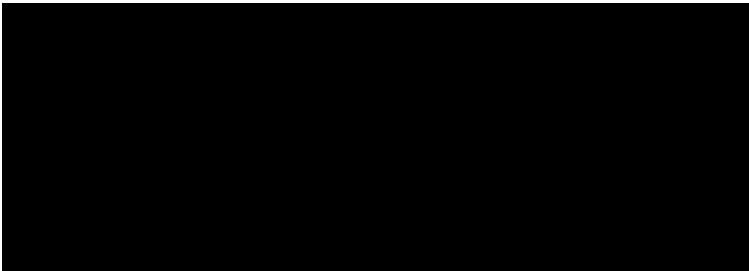
From: Leonard Zuczek [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 30, 2025 9:09:24 AM
To: Division 1, Kevin Hanson <KRHanson@rockyview.ca>; Division 3, Crystal Kissel <CKissel@rockyview.ca>; Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>
Cc: info@springbankcommunity.com <info@springbankcommunity.com>
Subject: NEW Springbank Multi-Sport Facility

Hello, _____

I am a strong advocate for the Springbank Community Association's efforts to develop a new sports facility. This initiative promises to bring numerous benefits to our community, including enhanced opportunities for recreation, wellness, and local events. By supporting this project, we can foster a more connected and active community, while also providing a space for individuals of all ages to engage in physical activity. A new sports facility would not only improve the quality of life for current residents but also create a vibrant, welcoming environment for future generations.

Thank you for your support.

Leonard Zuczek



From: Springbank Community Association <info@springbankcommunity.com>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 8:03 PM
To: Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>; todd.muir@springbankpark.com
<todd.muir@springbankpark.com>
Subject: Fwd:

Please see letter of support for SPFAS multi-sport facility.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Clarence Longeway [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Mar 31, 2025 at 3:26 PM
Subject:
To: info@springbankcommunity.com <info@springbankcommunity.com>

Support for Multi Sports Facility in
Springbank

March 31, 2025

Please accept this letter of support for the new Multi Sports Facility proposed at the Springbank Park For All Seasons!!

As a former resident of the Springbank Community and current landowner in Springbank as well I commend the Springbank Community Association for their foresight. Over the years I was involved in many activities at the "Park". My family and I were involved in the community auctions that were one of the first fundraisers for the SPFAS. Also helped with the High School Rodeos that were held in the arena. Supplied the sand and soil mixture that we hauled in and out of the arena in 2 days as the ice plant was starting

with Minor Hockey for a number of years as a coach of Pee Wee hockey. Part of the team that brought a Provincial Championship to Springbank. Also my daughters were involved in figure skating. Played Old Timers Hockey in Springbank for 20 years and was involved in their fundraisers with my wife Joan. Because of the wonderful years of being involved in the SPFAS I am extremely happy to support the proposal for the Multi Sports Facility.

Sincerely,

Clarence and Joan Longeway
Box 1297,
Cochrane, AB T4C 1B3

From: shelle longeway [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 1:42 PM
To: Division 1, Kevin Hanson <KRHanson@rockyview.ca>; Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>;
Division 3, Crystal Kissel <CKissel@rockyview.ca>
Cc: Mike Longeway [REDACTED]; shelle longeway [REDACTED]
Subject: New Springbank Multi-Sport Facility

Please find this letter of **strong support** for the new multi sports facility in Springbank. As active past and present Springbank community members my husband Mike and I know that the proposed facility would be a positive for the community. Our family are lifetime members of the SPFAS. We have noticed the current facility is not able to meet all the needs of the growing community. Pre children our use of SPFAS was almost weekly, once we had children it seemed we were there 3 to 4 times per week and now we continue to use the facility in our retirement years. I believe the proper planning, budget and community consultation has been done and shows it is needed and wanted. I am excited for this future facility and the stronger community it will make.

Sincerely,

Shelle, Mike Longeway and Family

From: s w [REDACTED]
Sent: April 1, 2025 11:35 AM
To: Division 3, Crystal Kissel <CKissel@rockyview.ca>; Division 1, Kevin Hanson <KRHanson@rockyview.ca>; Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>; Division 4, Samantha Wright <SWright@rockyview.ca>; Division 5, Greg Boehlke <GBoehlke@rockyview.ca>; Samra@rockyview.ca; Division 7, Al Schule <ASchule@rockyview.ca>; Reegan McCullough <RMcCullough@rockyview.ca>; Belen Scott <BScott@rockyview.ca>
Cc: plan.springbank@gmail.com
Subject: Expansion of the Community Funded Sporting/Training facility at the Webber Academy

Re: Facility Expansion Business Case For the development of a Multi-Use Sports, Courts and Indoor Turf Training Field Complex at the existing Webber Academy.

I am sending this email to indicate that in my opinion, the expansion of the above sporting facility seems to be premature as the Springbank community has not been provided sufficient information by Council to support the capital cost for an additional/expansion of the existing facility which was built at the Webber Academy.

The community needs be involved in the process as the proposed expansion represents a significant portion of the annual capital budget.

**Stanley Wong
35 Artist View Point
Calgary, Ab**

From: Cal Johnson [REDACTED]
Sent: April 1, 2025 2:51 PM
To: Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>; Division 1, Kevin Hanson <KRHanson@rockyview.ca>; Division 3, Crystal Kissel <CKissel@rockyview.ca>; Division 4, Samantha Wright <SWright@rockyview.ca>; Division 5, Greg Boehlke <GBoehlke@rockyview.ca>; Division 6, Sunny Samra <SSamra@rockyview.ca>; Division 7, Al Schule <ASchule@rockyview.ca>; Reegan McCullough <RMcCullough@rockyview.ca>; Belen Scott <BScott@rockyview.ca>
Cc: Plan Springbank <plan.springbank@gmail.com>
Subject: SPFAS Expansion Plans

I have followed, with great interest, the progression of this proposed expansion since it was presented to Rockyview's recreation Governance Committee on February 5 of this year. As a long term resident of Central Springbank I have been an occasional user of SPFAS and am familiar with its various facilities. I was particularly interested, and indeed concerned, that this Expansion is to take the place of the originally proposed Phase 2 of the facilities recommended by the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, and the hired Consultant, to meet recreational needs that would be put in place for 5 - 10 years after Phase 1.

This change in plans is of concern to me as a taxpayer, like other taxpayers who have not been consulted since the last consultation 8 years ago. Given that SPFAS would fund a mere 15% of the cost and taxpayers would be on the hook for the balance, this added cost in itself has several concerning implications. Building facilities like this is one thing, but as COP found out, it is the tip of the iceberg which doesn't take into account long term operating costs, at least not anywhere that I have seen. Also given the recent construction of similar facilities at Webber Academy, which also received money from the County, why would we be paying to replicate some of those facilities when you haven't even consulted the residents to see if these are what they want. The 2017 survey clearly ranked the facilities proposed well down the list of priorities. So, on what basis have you upgraded the priority without consulting any of the people who have to pay for the bulk of the costs?

This seems to be very much an initiative that prioritizes the wants and needs of some sports organizations to the exclusion of what other residents, such as myself, might want to see at a community funded facility.

I have read the questions raised by the SCPA and they seem valid to me. It is your responsibility as Councillors to act only when you have full information and have clear community support based upon a responsible consultation process. We don't need to rush into this about face and need to be sure that this has broader community support.

Cal Johnson
244129 HorizonView Road.

From: Debbie Vickery [REDACTED]
Sent: April 1, 2025 2:35 PM
To: Division 2, Don Kochan <DKochan@rockyview.ca>
Cc: plan.springbank@gmail.com; Reegan McCullough <RMcCullough@rockyview.ca>; Belen Scott <BScott@rockyview.ca>
Subject: URGENT update on Springbank Recreation Facility Decisions – Have your say!

Hello Don Kochan,

We are in total agreement with the summary that the Springbank Community Planning has brought forward. All the points noted NEED to be answered. As a taxpayer, money does not just get deposited into our accounts, it's hard earned dollars. RVC needs to do justice in ensuring all points mentioned have truly been reviewed and that the Springbank residence get the answers. Personally we were interested in the pathways, for summer and winter outdoor activities. Also, it takes money to keep facilities going, who is going to pay for this, and what statistics can you provide us with that support any decision made /going to be made by RVC !

We look forward to a response to this issue from RVC.

Regards,
Deb & Garth Vickery
And residents of Springbank
[REDACTED]

Debbie Vickery

Sent from my iPad
If there are spelling/punctuation errors in my message, please forgive the smartness of my iPad..

Begin forwarded message:

From: Springbank Community Planning Association <plan.springbank@gmail.com>
Date: April 1, 2025 at 10:16:45 AM MDT
To: Plan Springbank <plan.springbank@gmail.com>
Subject: URGENT update on Springbank Recreation Facility Decisions – Have your say!

You may have read the Springbank Community Association's (SCA) April 2025 newsletter that was distributed over the weekend. The SCA newsletter presents a glowing endorsement for the Springbank Park for All Seasons' (SPFAS) expansion plan*, which the SCA expects to be built in conjunction with the community hall/event centre.

We want to add our point of view on this important new issue for Springbank residents.

Consider this:

- Calgary has only **THREE** -- soon to be **FOUR** -- year-round indoor soccer centres.
- Springbank already has **ONE (almost complete) at Webber Academy** and now we have a proposal for a **SECOND one only 2 miles away!**

Perhaps it's time to pause any decisions and give this proposal more thought, consult with Springbank residents and other Rocky View County taxpayers, and gather some missing information and data?

The community hall/event centre is Phase 1 of the facilities recommended by the Stakeholder Advisory Committee and Hargroup Consulting. Phase 1 was approved by Council and its \$14 million capital cost is included in the 2026 capital budget. The new SPFAS expansion plan, with an estimated cost of \$11.5 million, would replace the current Phase 2, but on SPFAS land only, not on the 74-acre parcel purchased by Rocky View County (RVC) for Springbank recreation and community facilities. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee recommended Phase 2 as a medium- to long-term recreational "need", 5 to 10 years after the community hall/event centre.

As we said in our March 12 email, there has been no consultation with Springbank residents regarding recreation amenities since 2017. At that time, trails and pathways were the most requested priority, with a fitness/wellness facility as the second highest priority. What is now being proposed is a community hall/event centre (which ranked 16th), an indoor soccer field (ranked 10th) and competition-sized court space (ranked 7th).

There appears to be a significant disconnect between the 2017 input from Springbank residents and the current proposals. This disconnect makes the long-promised public consultations critically important **before** any further decisions are made.

There is also a lot of relevant information currently not available, that is essential for a carefully considered decision on what Springbank needs as additional recreation amenities. Some missing details include:

- Updated information/data on what recreational activities Springbank residents participate in and where.
 - What fraction (%) of Springbank residents participate in organized sports, which are the focus of the SPFAS' proposed expansion?
- Updated information/data on who uses existing recreation facilities in Springbank and where they live (Springbank, Harmony, Calgary?).
- An inventory of existing (and planned) recreation facilities available to Springbank residents, within the County and within a 20-minute driving radius of Springbank, including both public and private facilities.
 - This inventory needs to include Webber Academy's facilities (which received a grant from RV County) at Lower Springbank Rd and RR31. These facilities are available for public use outside school hours – a banquet hall with kitchen facilities, indoor fitness facilities, indoor and outdoor baseball diamonds, outdoor soccer field, and a soon-to-be completed indoor soccer field.

- What fraction (%) of Springbank children and youth participate in organized sports and are there wait lists for their participation in various sports?
 - This information is important to determine who the proposed facilities will primarily serve – Springbank, Harmony or Calgary residents.
- What is the status of intermunicipal discussions with the City of Calgary regarding recreation facilities to ensure that the County isn't duplicating facilities that could be cost-shared with our neighbours?
- How will the capital costs for the proposed facilities be financed? How much of that cost will be borne by RV County ratepayers?
- What are the revenue projections and operating costs for the proposed facilities? What fraction (%) of those costs will be paid by Springbank/RVC ratepayers?
- Should additional recreation facilities be built in south/central/north Springbank or Harmony, given respective growth projections? Can the County justify additional facilities in both communities?

Unfortunately, it is not clear that public consultation will happen nor if these questions will be answered before Council considers adding the SPFAS' expansion plans into the 5-year capital budget at its April 8 meeting, when they finalize the spring budget.

***Facility Expansion Business Case For the development of a Multi-Use Sports, Courts and Indoor Turf Training Field Complex (November 2024) at the Springbank Park for All Seasons**