

Procurement to Support Activities Funded by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund

Date: April 16, 2025

To: City Council

From: City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services

Wards: All

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request City Council authority to negotiate and enter into any necessary agreements, including non-competitive agreements, with a value exceeding \$500,000 for the provision of construction and professional services required to deliver up to 12 mini-pitches across Toronto for FIFA World Cup 2026 (FWC26). Mini-pitches are smaller, customizable, and fenced-in hard-court soccer spaces that are ideal for urban areas. Non-competitive procurements would proceed under the exception related to cost sharing, where another organization is funding or substantially funding the procurement, and the City has determined in good faith that both the proposed procurement and the selected supplier, along with the terms and conditions of the contract are beneficial to the City (Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 195, Procurement, Section 7.1K.). This procurement approach is necessary in order to meet the accelerated timeline to deliver the mini-pitches in advance of the FWC26 commencing in June 2026.

City Council approval is required in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 195, Procurement, where the current request exceeds the Chief Procurement Officer's authority of the cumulative five-year commitment for each supplier, under Article 7, Section 195-7.3 (D) of the Procurement By-Law or exceeds the threshold of \$500,000 net of Harmonized Sales Tax allowed under staff authority as per the Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 71- Financial Control, Section 71-11A.

The cost to deliver the mini-pitches, as well as initial operating costs, will be fully funded through the donations collected by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund (see Item [EX21.15](#) for additional details).

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Manager and Deputy City Manager, Corporate Services recommend that:

1. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management, in consultation with the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026, Toronto Secretariat, General Manager, Parks and Recreation, and Chief Procurement Officer, to negotiate and enter into any necessary agreements, including non-competitive agreements, with a value exceeding \$500,000, and execute any necessary Purchase Order Amendments, with a value exceeding \$500,000 or more than 10 per cent of the original commitment, for which Committee or City Council approval would normally be required under City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 71, Financial Control By-law and City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 195, Procurement, for the provision of construction and professional services required to deliver up to 12 mini-pitches across Toronto, provided that:

- a. the procurement or purchase order amendment is necessary to meet the June 2026 timeline of the FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto;
- b. the costs will be fully funded by the funds raised through the Soccer for All Legacy Fund;
- c. the non-competitive procurement processes are completed in accordance with the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 195, Procurement, and associated policies and procedures;
- d. the terms and conditions of any such agreements and any amending agreements are acceptable to the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and
- e. a report summarizing any amendments made under this authority is submitted to the appropriate Committee and/or City Council for information on an annual basis.

2. City Council direct the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management, in consultation with the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026, Toronto Secretariat and General Manager, Parks and Recreation, to proceed to complete project planning and design, and establish a stage gate process that ensures the City's construction plan aligns with the funds committed through the Soccer for All Legacy Fund.

3. City Council authorize the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026, Toronto Secretariat, in consultation with the Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to enter into an agreement with the Toronto Foundation to accept donations on behalf of the City for the Soccer for All Legacy Fund and later paid to the City as a grantee.

4. City Council authorize, subject to the confirmation and receipt of donations noted in Recommendation 3 above, the addition of donated funds as in-year adjustments to the 2025-2034 Capital Budget and Plan for Corporate Real Estate Management to support the procurement activities and delivery of up to 12 mini-pitches, fully funded by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no provision included in the City's 10-Year Capital Plan for the mini-pitch construction. Costs for construction and professional services required to deliver up to 12 mini-pitches will be funded exclusively by the donations collected by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund (see Item [EX21.15](#) for additional details). Budget will be included in-year as part of Corporate Real Estate Management's 2025-2034 Capital Budget and Plan as donations are received.

Corporate Real Estate Management will report the receipt and spending of donations subsequently to the appropriate Committee and Council at the earliest opportunity.

Future operating impacts to maintain the mini-pitches beyond funding made available through the Soccer for All Legacy Fund are still to be determined and will be included in future Parks and Recreation's Operating Budget as required. Additionally, these mini-pitches will not result in impacts to the overall operating and capital budgets for FWC26 through this report and the overall project cost of \$380 million remains unchanged.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial implications as contained in the Financial Impact Section.

DECISION HISTORY

On March 26 and 27, 2025, City Council adopted EX21.15, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Economic Benefits of Hosting, Soccer for All Legacy Fund and Community Benefits Plan Updates", which increased the 2025 Operating Budget for Non-Program by \$10.7 million to advance the Host City Commercial Hospitality Program as a key revenue generation strategy with funds to be replenished following the sale of hospitality packages, authority to accept donations as part of a private sector fundraising program for the SFA Legacy Fund, negotiate a naming rights agreement for the new "Soccer Hub" at Centennial Park, directed staff to prioritize Canadian suppliers and increase purchasing opportunities with Indigenous, Black and diverse suppliers and social enterprises, and to request additional funds from provincial and federal governments, in recognition of the additional revenue tariffs will generate for those governments. <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EX21.15>

On February 5, 2025, City Council adopted EX20.19, "Authorization to Enter into Agreements to Deliver a Successful FIFA World Cup 2026", granting staff the ability to execute agreements with FIFA's exclusive vendors in a timely manner is essential to staying on track and delivering an event that meets both FIFA's standards and our city's expectations. <https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.EX20.19>

On November 4, 2024, City Council adopted EX18.17, "FIFA World Cup 2026 Toronto: Revenue Opportunities to Support Hosting Obligations, Procurement Plan Revisions, and Social Procurement and Community Workforce Development Updates", which

reflected changes to the procurement plan and goals for social procurement.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX18.17>

On July 24, 2024, City Council adopted EX16.21, "Governance, Community Benefits Plan, Legacy and Program Advisory Framework, FIFA Fan Festival", which provided a general overview of planning, granted authority to enter in agreements with third party groups to receive funds, and accelerate RapidTO transit priorities, all associated with supporting the FIFA World Cup 2026 in Toronto.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX16.21>

On July 24, 2024, City Council adopted EX16.32, "FIFA World Cup 2026: Toronto Host City Procurement Plan", which provided approval to proceed in accordance with the procurement plan to procure the goods and services required for the delivery of FIFA World Cup 2026 set out in Confidential Attachment 1.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX16.32>

On July 5, 2024, the FIFA World Cup 2026 Subcommittee adopted FWC1.3, "FIFA World Cup 2026: Toronto Host City Procurement Plan", which directed the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup Hosting 2026 to conduct a line-by-line review of the City of Toronto's FIFA World Cup 2026 budget, in consultation with the FIFA Subcommittee Chair, City Divisions and Agencies engaged in delivering the games, and other relevant stakeholders, to identify opportunities to reduce the impact of the games on the City's property tax base and report back to the Subcommittee on the results of this review by October 2024.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.FWC1.1>

On June 18, 2024, Executive Committee adopted EX15.13, "Amending FIFA World Cup 2026 Subcommittee Mandate", which renamed the subcommittee as "FIFA World Cup 2026 Subcommittee" to broaden its mandate to consider all FIFA related matters including the oversight of the budget, and further consider and make recommendations on procurement plans.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX15.13>

COMMENTS

Toronto's journey to hosting the FWC26 began in 2018 when FIFA awarded hosting the FWC26 to a joint bid by Canada, Mexico and the United States, with matches to be staged across 16 cities in North America. On June 16, 2022, the City of Toronto was announced as an official Host City for the FWC26. Since that time, planning has actively been underway, preparing and uniting the city for Toronto to be showcased on the world stage.

In advance of the FWC26 commencing in June 2026, the City will be erecting up to 12 mini-pitches across Toronto. Mini-pitches are smaller, customizable, and fenced-in hard-court soccer spaces that are ideal for urban areas. Given the accelerated timeline for delivery, staff are seeking City Council authority to negotiate and enter into any necessary agreements, including non-competitive agreements, with a value exceeding

\$500,000 for the provision of construction and professional services required to deliver the 12 mini-pitches.

Non-competitive procurements may be undertaken where both the proposed procurement and supplier can be justified in good faith based on an exception set out in Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 195, Procurement. These procurements will be proceeding under the exception related to cost sharing, where another organization is funding or substantially funding the procurement, and the City has determined in good faith that both the proposed procurement and the selected supplier, along with the terms and conditions of the contract are beneficial to the City (Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 195, Procurement, Section 7.1K.).

The cost to deliver the mini-pitches, as well as initial operating costs, will be fully funded through the donations collected by the Soccer for All Legacy Fund (see Item [EX21.15](#) for additional details).

If approved, the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management, in consultation with the Executive Director, FIFA World Cup 2026, Toronto Secretariat and General Manager, Parks and Recreation, would proceed to complete project planning and design, and establish a stage gate process that ensures the City's construction plan aligns with the funds committed through the Soccer for All Legacy Fund.

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SIGNATURE

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