**President’s Update**

**Scenic Acres Park Update**

SACA has reached agreement with the Province, City and Bird on a six foot perimeter fence around the adult softball outfield in Scenic Acres Park. This fencing, which will be adjacent to the existing 8 foot parking lot fence, is required to compensate for deficiencies that resulted from construction deviations to the original plan. School construction resulted in a steeper grade differential than anticipated that also shortened centre and left fields. Last fall, the parties committed to develop a remediation plan to preserve the adult field which included alternatives to install a perimeter fence with sufficient height to compensate for the shortened outfield and/or extending the backstop further back. The City endorsed a perimeter fence but would only commit to making it 4 feet in height. Considering that this field is used by the adult league which has operated in Scenic Aces for three decades and that there could be risk associated with players flipping over a lower fence down into the steep grade area, SACA recommended a 6 foot fence and paid for the additional 2 foot differential to ensure the baseball diamond can be used safely. There are also future plans to landscape the area between the fences.

The perimeter fencing will follow the curvature of the outfield but will not border the entire diamond so it does not impact the sloped area that borders the Park nor does it affect the open field in the rear of the Park. People will still be able to move freely across the diamond through the Park unless a game is being played. Right field will include an 8 foot wide gate to permit machinery to enter and maintain the green space. The adult softball coordinator Laurie Bell was consulted on this solution along with SACA and we appreciate her contributions to the community over many years. The City’s overall strategic plan is to reduce the number of baseball diamonds significantly and the alternatives available to us where to preserve this asset with this perimeter fence or allow it to be eventually eliminated due to its shortened size and the labilities associated with the steep slope in left and centre fields.

Other issues not resolved related to the Park that SACA continues to pursue include masking the waste receptacle area which resulted from a deficiency to the original plan, correcting landscape issues around the property and completing repairs to one of the basketball courts which were created by heavy machinery and materials resting on it during construction.

**Parking Restriction Changes**

SACA is hosting two Open House sessions in June related to proposed parking changes within the community and I will provide a brief summary in this article. In the south, we are proposing extending the current restriction zone which currently ends at Scenic Acres Gate further west to Scenic Ridge Gate and include some portions of Scimitar Point and Bays as well as Scenic Glen Crescent. Residents in this area would still have to determine what specific block restrictions they wanted with 80% agreement from their neighbours. Many of you will remember I coordinated this initiative in 2008 when we implemented the restricted zone and the procedure is still the same today. The intent of the change is to implement street parking restrictions that allow for flexible arrangements in cooperation with the new school but provide some limits on street control. The new school was consulted earlier in the year and endorsed what we are intending to implement. Here is the link to the parking zones in Calgary; ours is SCA https://maps.calgary.ca/CalgaryParking/.

In the north, where the restricted zone is already in place, we are proposing removing some of the no parking areas along Scurfield Drive and Scenic Acres Boulevard in order to allow increased parking availability. These changes would provide more options for parking around the community centre and schools and would have the additional effect of deterring some of the speeding that occurs along these stretches of roadway.

Any feedback on these issues can be directed to me a [scenicboard@shaw.ca](mailto:scenicboard@shaw.ca).

**Community Development Committee Vacancy**

SACA has a small committee that addresses community development issues involving development permits and includes things like establishing local businesses and building development. It involves engaging with residents on these matters as well as providing input to the City on larger projects, representing our community. The time commitment is minimal but you should have some technical or planning qualifications and experience. If interested, please contact [scenicboard@shaw.ca](mailto:scenicboard@shaw.ca).

Have a great summer!

**Upcoming Scenic Acres Events**

* The SACA’s annual Stampede Breakfast is July 9th from 9 AM to Noon. Contact [scenicvolunteers@shaw.ca](mailto:scenicvolunteers@shaw.ca) or <https://www.volunteersignup.org/EXM7L> to volunteer.
* The SACA Canada 150th all day event is August 26th! Mark your calendars and plan to attend some or all the activities hosted across the community. Those interested to volunteer please contact volunteersignup.org/B9FRX.