



**THE CORPORATION OF THE
MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE**

Subject: Inverhuron Dog Park Update

Director: Community Services

Manager: Recreation & Community Programs

Report Number: Recreation and Community Programs-2022-04

Meeting Date: Monday, June 20, 2022

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive the information contained within this report;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to include an Off-Leash Dog Park in Inverhuron for consideration in the 2023 budget;

AND FURTHER THAT Staff solicit public interest to commence a stewardship program for the development of an Off-Leash Dog Park in Inverhuron.

Date to be considered by Council: Monday, July 4, 2022

Report Summary:

Staff have developed preliminary budget numbers for a suggested Dog Park to be considered at Upper Park in Inverhuron for 2023 budget deliberations.

Origin: April 20, 2022 Council Motion

Existing Policy: Council Approval

Background/Analysis: At the April 20, 2022 Council meeting, the following Motion was passed;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to provide a report on a location and costing for an enclosed dog park in Inverhuron.

As a result of the motion, Community Services staff assessed the Inverhuron Parks for Off-Leash Dog Park suitability. The assessment kept in mind industry norms and guidelines to consider when constructing an Off-Leash Dog Park including:

- Availability of an organized group of volunteers to manage the area
- Start-up costs (fencing, signage, plant materials, site preparation, etc.)
- Potential interaction between dog owners and other park users, and where “crossover” of traffic will occur
- Available drinking water
- Waste disposal
- Adequate, appropriate, and clearly posted signage

The success of an Off-Leash Dog Park is heavily reliant on a Stewardship Group. Without such a group, the burden lies with municipal staff and the taxpayer to sustain it. Stewardship Groups create a sense of community and pride amongst dog park users, as well as assist to resolve conflicts and problems that may occur at the park.

In the survey results presented to Council on April 4, 2022, it was noted that only 19% of survey respondents indicated that they would be interested in participating in an Off-Leash Dog Park Committee and further that only 39% of respondents said they would be willing to fundraise if a new park was proposed. Although these numbers aren’t significant, these both could be further investigated based on direction from Council.

Based on the industry guidelines for an Off-Leash Dog Park; the Inverhuron park sizes; and the potential future uses for each park, Staff are suggesting that the most suited location for an Inverhuron Off-Leash Dog Park would be at the Inverhuron Upper Park (Corner of Bruce Road 15 and Albert Road). This will result in a number of trees being removed in order to accommodate fencing infrastructure and installation. Staff have prepared some preliminary numbers for information purposes but will have more realistic costing once a tender is posted in 2023.

Preliminary Construction Costs for Inverhuron Off-Leash Dog Park

One (1) acre cost for fencing, gates and posts - \$71,000.00

Arborist - \$45,000.00 (tree removal to accommodate fencing)

Signage - \$2,500.00

Concrete - \$1,000.00

Drinking Water - \$2,500.00

Total Preliminary Construction Costs - \$122,000.00

Preliminary Operating Costs for Inverhuron Off-Leash Dog Park

Spring Maintenance – staff time and materials - \$350.00

Weekly Inspections – staff time \$35.35 x 52 weeks - \$1,838.20

Total Preliminary Operating Costs – \$2,488.20

Integrated Strategy 2020 – 2025 Goal CW2: Create and maintain vibrant parks and recreation facilities to create opportunities for multi-use, multi-generational, and multi-seasonal experiences.

Financial Implications: More accurate numbers will be provided through the competitive bid process.

Attachments: Map of Inverhuron Upper Park showing an acre of land available for an Off-Leash Dog Park

Prepared by: Karen Kieffer, Manager, Community Programs

Submitted by: Jayne K. Jagelewski, Director, Community Services