



THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE REPORT

Subject: Parks and Recreation Plan

Director: **Community Services**

Manager: *Manager.*

Report Number: Parks & Facilities-2023-14

Meeting Date: **Monday, May 15, 2023**

Recommendation:

That Council approve the addition of facilities and programs as part of an enhanced Parks Master Plan and that it be considered a Parks and Recreation Master Plan for a total amount of \$55,000; AND THAT Council confirms its intention to fund the Parks and Recreation Master Plan using Development Charges; AND FURTHER THAT the project be funded using a 50/50 share of Parks and Recreation Development Charges (RF 80) for \$27,500 and the Recreation RF 72 for \$27,500

Date to be considered by Council: Monday, May 15, 2023

Report Summary:

The 2018 Parks Master Plan was not approved by Council and remains in draft form. During 2023 budget deliberations, Council approved \$25,000 to update the existing draft Plan. Council has now requested that the scope of the Plan be expanded to include facilities and programs to provide a wholesome Plan.

Origin: Notice of Motion on May 1, 2023, by Councilor Kennedy.

Existing Policy: NA

Background/Analysis:

In 2018 the Municipality commissioned a consulting firm for the development of a Parks Master Plan. At that time, the Plan was not approved by Council; however, the draft Parks Master Plan still contains valuable information that could be applicable to a future Plan. As part of the 2023 budget deliberations, Council approved \$25,000 to provide a review of the contents of the draft Parks Plan to

ensure it is compliant and to review what was heard in 2018 is still relevant today. Council has requested that consideration be given to include a recreation and programs component to the scope of the Plan. Through economies of scale, this recommendation is a logical request and ensures the Municipality is seeking a collaborative approach to the future of parks and recreation as opposed to developing a future single Recreation Plan. It is important that a Plan provides the municipality focus on next practices as opposed to best practices. This process requires guidance from a subject expert to provide a completed Plan, on time – on budget. The benefit of working with the external consultant is the expertise that they bring to help the community with the development of a strategy. Council discussed the potential to form a committee to help in the development of a Parks and Recreation Plan. Based on the staff's previous experience, this may delay the process of a completed Plan. Committee work is generally completed monthly during a two-hour meeting. This can prolong the overall completion of the Plan and will require staff resources be allocated away from other projects, as it is not included as part of the already approved Business Plan. Staff recognize that through the budget process Council has identified the priority of a Parks Plan to confirm the location for the Tiverton Lions Club Splash Pad and a permanent home for the Pickleball Courts and are noting the most expedient path forward for those groups that are currently waiting for recommendations from an approved Plan. At this point, staff does not recommend an Ad Hoc group be formed, but could be considered for future work that derives from recommendations within the completed and approved Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The input of users of municipal parks and facilities is valuable to help confirm a strategy, however for the purpose of plan creation the individual user is not the expert in the development of a strategy which provides direction for the next 10-20 years.

Integrated Strategy 2020 – 2025: Enhancing Quality of Life – Create vibrant parks, green space, recreation facilities and programs for residents or visitors of all ages.

Financial Implications: The 2023 Budget includes \$25,000 for this project funded from the Recreation Reserve Fund 72. The net remaining RF 72 balance available after funding this project is \$5,090.

The Parks Master Plan is not specifically identified in the 2019 Development Charges (DC) Background Study as a DC Eligible Project. Therefore, in order to fund this project using DC's, Council must express its intention to use DC's for this project. However, only the portion attributed to benefit future growth is DC eligible. Using the assumptions within the DC Background Study, 50% would be eligible to fund a Development Related Study such as Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

Therefore, staff is recommending that this project be funded 50% through Parks & Recreation DC's (RF 80) of \$27,500 and 50% funded through the Recreation RF 72 (\$27,500). The current available balance of Parks & Recreation DC's amounts to \$387,759.

Attachments: NA

Prepared by: Jayne K. Jagelewski, Director of Community Services

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