

# Staff Report to Council

**Title:** Victoria Park Concept Design

**Report Number:** Parks & Facilities-2024-25

**Director:** Community Services

**Manager:** Parks & Facilities

**Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

**Date to be considered by Council:**

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

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## Recommendation:

That Council approve the design concept for Victoria Park prepared by Pl.ural Design Inc. and Council direct staff for inclusion in the 2026 Capital Budget.

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## Executive Summary:

Pl.ural Design Inc. has developed a concept design for Victoria Park based on public engagement and staff input for the purposes of improved accessibility and performance pavilion.

## Strategic Priorities:

C.8-Create vibrant parks, green space, recreation facilities and programs for residents or visitors of all ages and abilities

## Financial Considerations:

Council approved \$25,000 during 2024 budget deliberations for the purposes of designing a performance venue at Victoria Park as well as improving accessibility amenities.

The five-year capital forecast will recognize improvements to Victoria Park.

## Policy:

Procurement Policy GG 2.17

## Context and Background Information:

Staff requested during the 2024 budget deliberations design concept drawings at Victoria Park for a performance pavilion. Council expressed their desire that the concept designs

include improvements to accessibility to ensure all patrons accessing Victoria Park had same experience, while also meeting the needs of our special events and special occasions within the park.

Staff have been working with Pl.rual Design Inc. for the purposes of developing concept drawings.

Three concept drawings were presented through an engagement process at the Kincardine Arts Centre as well as on-line. A total of 212 responses were received which highlighted items that the public were passionate about within the park.

There were key themes that formed through the engagement process. These included:

- Accessibility
- Heritage

The feedback that was received was consolidated and formed into one concept design that was further shared through a second community engagement platform.

This evening, Pl.rual Design Inc will be sharing their proposal based on their expertise as well as what they have heard.

### **Consultation Overview:**

The consultation process included two engagement sessions, as well as on-line opportunities for members of the public to share their feedback.

Special event groups who offer events at Victoria Park were invited to these sessions, along with a one-on-one opportunity with the Scottish Festival team.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee provided input, and staff met with Heritage Advisory Committee to share the draft concept.

### **Origin:**

The pavilion located in Victoria Park is a facility that staff attend to regularly to make repairs. Staff requested funds to design a new staging area, and at that time, Council requested that a full review of the space for enhancements for accessibility for considered.

### **Implementation Considerations:**

The construction of this project should be considered in fall of any given year.

Because staff will also be requesting that the boardwalk project be construction in fall 2025, these two projects will impact heavily on staff without a dedicated Prime Consultant to over see them. Therefore, staff is recommending that the Victoria Park enhancement be considered fall 2026 unless directed otherwise.

In 2025 low hanging fruit projects could be considered such as completion of the repair work for the fountain and repairs to the two canons to support the structures.

### **Risk Analysis:**

The delay to the project could see the rise in costs of materials.

Continued misconceptions of the public as to the scope of the project. Staff have received several comments requesting that we “just repair” the pavilion. However, the existing condition of the facility and numerous repairs impacts staff’s ability to provide services to all the department’s assets.

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**Attachments:** Pl.rual Design Victoria Park Presentation

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

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