

# Staff Report to Council

**Title:** Boardwalk Surface Material

**Report Number:** Parks & Facilities-2025-11

**Director:** Community Services

**Manager:** Manager.

**Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

**Date to be considered by Council:**

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

---

## Recommendation:

That Council approve stamped concrete as the preferred surface material for the boardwalk that resembles a wooden boardwalk;

OR

That Council approve composite surfacing for the boardwalk, with concrete at parking entrances.

---

## Executive Summary:

Staff are looking for Council's direction on the preferred surfacing for the boardwalk to advance the Boardwalk Project and ensure it is completed in fall 2025. Staff have previously provided background on the pros and cons of both materials and have attached that report presented on February 12, 2025. Staff is now seeking clarity on Council's preferred option.

## Strategic Priorities:

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

## Financial Considerations:

The boardwalk construction project was approved in the 2025 Capital Budget. Council approved \$750,000 for construction with anticipated completion in Fall 2025. Cost comparisons can be difficult until the project goes to tender. Additional engineering expenses would be incurred to request quotes for both concrete material as well as composite material.

## Policy:

Procurement Policy

## **Context and Background Information:**

The choice between concrete surfacing and composite materials is critical, given the impact on environmental sustainability, maintenance costs, and user experience.

Station Beach is a valued recreational and environmental asset for our community. As we move forward with construction plans, Council's decision on the boardwalk's surfacing will align with both the Waterfront Master Plan, as well as specific community engagement for the concept design gathered from individuals who provided their time and input in the process.

Once Council has identified their preferred design, Staff is eager to begin the process of finalizing consultation with SVCA and SON and proceeding with finalizing drawings and commencing the competitive process of securing a firm for construction.

## **Consultation Overview:**

Waterfront Master Plan 2023  
Community Boardwalk Consultation 2024  
Flower Garden Plot Volunteers 2024  
Council Tour of the Site during Bus Tour 2024  
Lake Huron Coastal Centre 2024  
Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority 2024  
Accessibility Advisory Committee 2024

## **Origin:**

5-year capital forecast.  
2025 Budget

## **Implementation Considerations:**

Implementation considerations were included in the attached report from February 12, 2025. Overall considerations need to be long-term investment and user satisfaction.

## **Risk Analysis:**

Delayed decision-making on the project may push it out as a carryover to Fall 2026 due to late insufficient interest from potential bidders as well as escalating costs.

---

**Attachments:** Station Beach Boardwalk Update  
**Prepared by:** Jayne K. Jagelewski, Director of Community Services  
**Submitted by:** Jayne K. Jagelewski, Director of Community Services