



Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Board of Health Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	April 20, 2017
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Water Drinking Fountains in Parks (City Wide) – (PW17018) <i>(Outstanding Business List Item)</i>
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Andrea McDonald (905) 546-2424, Extension 2738
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch, B.Sc., Director of Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

The Board of Health at its meeting of June 13, 2016 approved the following:

“The Health Effects of Sugary Drinks and Hydration (Item 6.1)

WHEREAS Sugary drinks consumption has led to an alarming negative health trend and is associated with several chronic diseases, as outlined in the presentation by Heart and Stroke Foundation.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the General Manager of Public Works report back to the Board of Health on the feasibility and associated operating costs of re-installing water drinking fountains, including those historically known as “Shorty Greens”, in all City owned parks.”

Information:

In the early 1900’s the City of Hamilton utilized a public water drinking fountain known as the Shorty Green. This fountain was a bowl based drinking fountain that had a central water feed, mounted onto a green painted base. These fountains had a constant flow of cold water, and were a successful innovation at the time. These fountains serviced the community with accessible clean water. As these fountains reached the end of their lifecycle, they were replaced with newer technology, or not replaced at all.

The City of Hamilton currently provides publicly accessible drinking water in a number of capacities. There are water drinking fountains/bottle filling stations in parks, recreation centres, public buildings (City Hall/Municipal Service Centres) and on some streets.

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These water drinking fountain assets are managed by the Department/Division related to its location. This report includes information for water drinking fountains on parkland/open space only, it does not include water drinking fountains that may be found in a park but are associated with a recreationally based facility. In addition, a breakdown of water drinking fountains by City Ward area is noted below:

Ward No.	# of Water Drinking Fountains (Parkland)	Ward No.	# of Water Drinking Fountains (Parkland)
1	11	9	2
2	6	10	0
3	10	11	1
4	7	12	1
5	4	13	0
6	11	14	1
7	7	15	1
8	7		
		Total Fountains	69

Capital and Operational Costs for Water Drinking Fountains

The current water drinking fountain style for Parks (new installation) include some or all of the following features: water bottle filling station, drinking fountain and may include a pet drinking bowl feature.

A summary of capital costs per new water drinking fountain unit in non-serviced (water) parks and a summary of annual operating costs are included below:

Water Drinking Fountain- Capital Cost per Unit (Approximate)**		
Item	Cost	Notes
Fountain Unit and Footing	\$6,500	Based on a drinking fountain with three features.
Installation Water Service	\$4,500	Will vary based on location and access to infrastructure.
Water Meter and Chamber	\$13,000	Could be avoided if Spray Pad present.
Sanitary Service/drain	\$10,500	Will vary based on location and access to infrastructure. Could be reduced if Spray Pad present.
Approximate Installation Total	\$34,500	
<p>**The estimated costs above are an average of the capital costs as the costs of installing a water drinking fountain are unique to the proposed sites given that connecting to water servicing varies considerably site to site.</p> <p>**This estimate does not include capital lifecycle replacement of the unit.</p>		

Water Drinking Fountain- Annual Operating Cost		
Item	Cost	Notes
Season Opening	\$300	1x per year
Inspection	\$700	6x per operating season
Season Closing	\$300	1x per year (includes storage)
Sewer and Water Charges	\$400	Per Season (4 months)
Approximate Annual Total	\$1700	

Water Drinking Fountain Inventory and Costs

The Parks & Cemeteries Section of the Environmental Services Division provides maintenance for approximately 1,740 hectares (4,300 acres) of municipal parkland and open space properties at 521 sites, with 69 of these parkland sites currently serviced by water drinking fountains. The current water drinking fountain inventory represents an annual operating cost of \$117,300.

If the City were to provide water drinking fountains in all of the existing urban non-serviced parkland sites (407), this would represent an approximate estimated capital cost of \$14,041,500 and an additional \$691,900 in annual operating costs.