



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	October 5, 2017
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Outdoor Recreation Facilities & Sports Field Provision Plan (Outdoor Study) Update (CS11064(b)) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Sarah Cellini (905) 546-2424 ext. 3859
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Chris Herstek Director, Recreation Division Community and Emergency Services Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## Council Direction:

Not Applicable

## Information:

### Background

In January 2009, the Recreation Division retained the services of Monteith Brown Planning Consultants to undertake an Outdoor Recreation Facilities and Sports Field Provision Plan (i.e. Outdoor Study) to examine outdoor recreation issues and needs. The purpose of the Study was to provide the City with a sustainable strategy for managing Hamilton's portfolio of outdoor sports fields and other outdoor community-use recreation infrastructure. In December of 2011, the Outdoor Study (Report CS11064(a)) was approved by Council.

### Outdoor Study (2011)

The Study made recommendations to better meet the recreation needs of Hamilton residents over the next 20 years by improving operations, maintenance, planning, accessibility, and recreation administration. The study identified the need for additional sport fields, better maintenance of sport fields, better distribution of other recreation amenities like spray pads, and improved accessibility of parks. The Outdoor Study summarized major issues through consultation with the public, user groups, staff members and Council with regard to the provision of outdoor recreation amenities.

The Study provides facility profiles, needs assessments and recommendations for soccer, football, multi-use fields, ball diamonds, cricket pitches, hard surfaced courts, bocce courts, lawn bowling greens, skate parks, playgrounds, spray pads, wading

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*OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.*

*OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.*

*OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.*

pools, miscellaneous outdoor recreation amenities, support buildings, and indoor sports facilities. The Outdoor Study outlines 178 recommendations and assigns specific Departments and Divisions responsible for reviewing and/or moving the recommendations forward.

#### Outdoor Study Update

Appendix A to Report CS11064(b) lists the Outdoor Study's 178 recommendations and identifies whether the recommended items have been completed, tabled or are progressing. Since Council received the Outdoor Study in 2011, 60% of the recommendations have been completed, 38% are progressing (i.e. time frame not reached and/or work is underway) and 2% require additional consideration and/or future funding to complete. Maintenance or policy related recommendations that are labelled "complete" may have ongoing monitoring or required maintenance programs that continue on a yearly basis.

The Outdoor Study has been beneficial for staff to develop division work plans, identifying clear roles and responsibilities between departments and has helped inform/prioritize budget considerations/investment for City-owned outdoor community infrastructure and park development plans.

#### Next Steps

Staff will continue to work with colleagues in Parks and Cemeteries Division, Public Works Department; Landscape Architectural Services Division, Public Works Department; Capital Budgets Division, Corporate Services Department; and Energy, Fleet & Facilities Management Division, Public Works Department to ensure that the outstanding recommendations (labelled "progressing" and "tabled") are completed. For those recommendations that require further consideration, consultation with Councillors and internal staff working groups will be required to determine sustainable solutions.

Staff will bring an update of the Outdoor Study to committee in Q4 2018 which will provide current information on trends and allow for better planning. Since the release of the Outdoor Study in 2011, Provincial planning documents have been updated (the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe has released targets to 2041) as well as a phased release of the 2016 census data, all of which will impact trends and amenity provision information. Additionally, the timing of the Outdoor Study is to the year 2031 and will be beneficial to align a future Outdoor Study to align with the Growth Plan's 2041 planning horizon to understand sport trends and recreation needs of Hamilton's residents.

#### **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix A to Report CS11064(b): Status Update: Outdoor Study Recommendations