



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Environmental Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	June 18, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	John Rebecca Park – Donation, 76 John Street North, Hamilton (Ward 2) (PW18050)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 2
PREPARED BY:	Meghan Stewart (905) 546-2424 extension 2337
SUBMITTED BY:	Kara Bunn Acting Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Director of Environmental Services be authorized to negotiate, enter into and execute a contract and any ancillary documents required to give effect thereto with the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation for the receipt of a donation in the amount of \$1 million dollars which shall be used to fund the construction of John Rebecca Park, with content acceptable to the General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;
- (b) That the donation amount of \$1 million dollars from the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation be placed into capital budget account number 4401856615 to be used for the construction of John Rebecca Park;
- (c) That the associated operating impacts from park development, totalling \$121,540 and 0.73 FTE be added to the Operating Budget base in 2019;
- (d) That the Mayor send a letter of thanks, on behalf of the City, to the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation for its gracious donation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City Council meeting on April 25, 2018, Motion 7.3 of Report 18-007 outlined an approved capital funding strategy to construct John Rebecca Park attached as Appendix B to Report PW18050. Part of the funding strategy acknowledged that the

Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation came forward with an offer of a donation of \$1 million dollars to partially fund the construction of John Rebecca Park, on the condition that the park is constructed in 2019.

The operating impacts from park development are normally indicated on the capital budget sheet and approved with the capital funding approval. Since the funds for the capital construction were allocated through the motion approved at City Council on April 26, 2018, the operating impacts were not identified, and therefore recommendation (b) of this report allocates operating funds through Report PW18050. These funds are required in 2019 to operate the refrigerated ice rink among other park amenities in year.

A public meeting held on May 29, 2018 reconfirmed the park program to include green spaces, tree planting, sun shelter, spray pad/fountain/ice rink, and walkway connections. Staff is prepared to proceed with detailed design of the park to be ready for tender as of December 2018.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 4

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The park construction cost is estimated at \$2.5 million for the concept illustrated as shown in Appendix “A” attached to Report PW18050. This cost includes all associated contingencies and construction administration.

The Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation is offering a donation of \$1 million dollars. This reduces the pressure on limited city resources to construct the park. The remaining city share is reduced to \$1.5 million which was approved on April 25, 2018, Item 7.3 from Council Report 18-007.

Once the park is constructed, there will be operating pressures to maintain the new park, and per recommendation (b) of Report PW18050, these will be added to the operating base in 2019. The operating funding required by Recreation staff to maintain the artificial ice rink facility is \$77,940 and 0.4 FTE. The operating funding required by Parks Operations to maintain the constructed park is \$43,600 and 0.33 FTE.

Staffing: The constructed park will create an operating pressure of 0.73 FTE.

Legal: Legal staff will be required to execute a contract with the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation in order for the City to receive the funds.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Information Report PW16096, presented to General Issues Committee on November 2, 2016, outlined the history of John Rebecca Park.

In the 2018 capital budget, funds totalling \$360,000 were approved to proceed with detailed design of the future park. A public meeting was held on May 29, 2018 to confirm the park program and the desired amenities by the community. The original concept, developed in 2012, focussed on a memorial space for Emergency Workers. Since that time, other initiatives to commemorate Emergency Workers have emerged and the memorial space is no longer being considered. Additionally, the property located at 77 King William Street was found to be on the City's Inventory of Buildings of Architectural and/or Historical Interest. A revised concept was developed, and was confirmed by the public at the May 29, 2018 meeting, including amenities suitable for an urban park such as treed and grassed areas, seating, shade, water feature and open gathering space. The revised concept is included as shown in Appendix "A" attached to Report PW18050.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

It is usual practice that a donation agreement is completed for donations of large amounts, so that both parties can agree to the terms of the donation.

Through the capital budget process, operating impacts are approved when the capital request is approved, and added to the operating base budget. For John Rebecca Park, this will be achieved through recommendation (b) of Report PW18050, since there will be no capital budget detail sheet submitted for 2019.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

External consultation:

The community and stakeholders for this project were invited to a public meeting for this project on May 29, 2018. The attendees provided many suggestions about how to refine the proposed park concept, and staff is working to address the comments provided at the meeting. Comments and staff responses will be posted to the project website at <https://www.hamilton.ca/parks-recreation/creating-new-parks/john-rebecca-park>.

The following internal stakeholders were consulted and are supportive of this park development:

Ward 2 Councillor

Public Works staff:
Parks and Cemeteries
Forestry and Horticulture

Planning and Economic Development staff:
Community Planning
Real Estate

Corporate Services staff:
Finance

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

In order to accept the donation from the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation, an agreement is required. Recommendation (a) from Report PW18050 addresses the staff authorization that is required to execute the necessary agreement.

Typically, projects are funded through the capital budget process, which allows staff to show the associated operating impacts that arise from capital projects. In this case, since the funding was allocated through a motion and a donation, there will be no capital budget sheet to show the operating impacts. For this reason, the recommendation (b) of Report PW18050 is required so there will be sufficient operating resources to maintain the park once it is built.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

An alternative to the recommendations would be for Council to not accept the donation from the Patrick J. McNally Charitable Foundation. If this alternative were to proceed, the park construction would remain in the ten-year forecast for 2021 and 2022, and budget pressures and priorities would have to be evaluated in those years during the capital budget process for approval of the funding. As costs increase every year, from inflation and other factors, the required funding for the project may increase as well. This alternative is not recommended.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement & Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

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.

Clean and Green

Hamilton is environmentally sustainable with a healthy balance of natural and urban spaces.

Built Environment and Infrastructure

Hamilton is supported by state of the art infrastructure, transportation options, buildings and public spaces that create a dynamic City.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” - John Rebecca Park revised concept plan

Appendix “B” – Motion, Item 7.3 of Report 18-007 approved at Council meeting of April 25, 2018.