




Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members Committee of the Whole
COMMITTEE DATE:	April 8, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Aviary Donor Extension Response Letter (PW19108(a)) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Sam Scarlett (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3919
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

The following recommendations from Report PW19108 were approved at Public Works Committee on December 2, 2019 and at Council on December 11, 2019:

- (a) That the General Manager of Public Works, or their designate, be authorized and directed to request that the anonymous Donor provide a 12 month extension from the date of Council ratification in order for staff to complete a feasibility study, cost estimate and operational business plan prior to the potential acceptance of the \$1,000,000 donation to support the construction of a new City of Hamilton Aviary at Gage Park;
- (b) That the General Manager of Public Works, or their designate, be authorized and directed to request that the anonymous Donor provide a 36 month extension from the date of Council ratification to allow for the potential start of construction of a new City of Hamilton Aviary at Gage Park;

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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.

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- (c) That \$110,000 be approved from Unallocated Capital Reserve Account #108020 for the completion of a feasibility study, cost estimate and operational business plan for a new City of Hamilton Aviary at Gage Park conditional upon the agreement of the anonymous Donor to both timeframe extensions; and,
- (d) That staff report back to the Public Works Committee with the results of the discussions with the Donor's representative.

INFORMATION

This Information Report addresses recommendation (d) of Report PW19108. Following the December 2, 2019 Public Works Committee, staff requested an extension, as per recommendations (a) and (b) of Report PW19108, through a letter to the Donor's Representative. On February 24, 2020, staff received a response from the Donor's Representative, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PW19108(a), that states:

- 1) The Donor does not find the extension acceptable;
- 2) The Donor will meet with the Friends of the Aviary to consider what options they may have to build a separate aviary.

Due to the Donor's rejection of the extension proposed by staff, the \$110,000 approved for the completion of a feasibility study, cost estimate, and operational business plan for a new City of Hamilton Aviary at Gage Park (Report PW19108 recommendation (c)), is no longer required from Unallocated Capital Reserve Account #108020.

Also, at the December 2, 2019 Public Works Committee meeting, Committee approved the recommendations from Report PW17080(a) Friends of the Aviary Business Case Review and Extension of Agreement. The recommendations in Report PW17080(a) allowed a short to medium term agreement with both the Friends of the Aviary and the Royal Botanical Gardens to continue to operate the Aviary at 85 Oak Knoll Drive. This agreement is presently being prepared.

Staff will follow up with a recommendation report to Public Works Committee in Q2, 2020 that will outline suggested next steps in the management of the Aviary.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report PW19108(a) – Donor's letter