



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Environmental Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	September 20, 2021
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund (PW21054) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Cynthia Graham (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2337
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Eastwood Park Spray pad, shown in Appendix "A" to Report PW21054, be approved as the City of Hamilton's submission to the Ontario Trillium Foundation, for their consideration of the requested funding amount of \$500,000, in accordance with the terms and conditions associated with Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund;
- (b) That, should the Ontario Trillium Foundation approve the requested funding, in the amount of \$500,000, toward the total cost of \$878,00 for the Eastwood Park Spray pad, shown in Appendix "A" to Report PW21054, the City of Hamilton's share of the funding, in the amount of \$378,000, be referred to the 2022 Tax Capital Budget (Open Space Block) for consideration; and,
- (c) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any funding agreement(s) and ancillary documents required for the City to receive funding for the Eastwood Park Spray pad, shown in Appendix "A" to Report PW21054, through Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Benefit Fund, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The recommendations in Report PW21054 are to seek Council approval of the City of Hamilton's (City) application for the Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund (OTFCBF) and for the City's portion of the project.

The Ontario government is investing \$105 million through the new Community Building Fund to support non-profit tourism, culture, sport and recreation organizations as they recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and meet the needs of their communities. The Community Building Fund will target organizations whose programs and services enhance the quality of life for Ontario residents and support jobs in communities across the province.

The Community Building Fund – Capital stream provides support for non-profits, Indigenous communities and Municipalities in the community sport and recreation sectors. The fund will help strengthen communities by supporting the repair, renovation or retrofitting of existing sport and recreation facilities to address:

- local community need by extending the life and maximizing the use of existing facilities (e.g. playgrounds, splashpads, etc.) OR
- COVID-19 related public health requirements now that support future preparedness

Applications are available starting September 1, 2021 and the deadline is September 29, 2021 at 5 PM ET. Available funding is 80% of the total project cost up to a maximum of \$500,000.

Alternatives for Consideration – N/A

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The funding sources and requirements are outlined in Appendix "B" attached to Report PW21054. The potential funding contribution from the Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund would enhance the City's ability to address outdoor recreational amenities that require replacement because they are at their end of life. The total estimated budget for the Eastwood Park Spray Pad Redevelopment is \$878,000, of which \$378,000 is the City's share proposed to be funded through the 2022 Tax Capital Budget Open Space Development Block. Approval of the City's contribution is required and is sought through Recommendation (a) of Report PW21054.

Staffing: There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendations in Report PW21054.

Legal: The City will have to enter into a funding agreement to receive approved Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund grants. The funding agreement will encompass the terms and conditions of the Community Building Fund. Authority to enter into this agreement is sought through Recommendation (b) of Report PW21054.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Community Building Fund – Capital stream of the Ontario Trillium Foundation provides support for non-profits, Indigenous communities and Municipalities in the community sport and recreation sectors. The fund will help strengthen communities by supporting the repair, renovation or retrofitting of existing sport and recreation facilities to address:

- local community need by extending the life and maximizing the use of existing facilities (e.g. playgrounds, splashpads, etc.) OR
- COVID-19 related public health requirements now that support future preparedness

Eastwood Park is a 6.0-hectare community park that was established in the 1920's and serves as a vital asset to the North End neighbourhood of central Hamilton's Ward 2. This community park is uniquely located amongst the port(s) of the Hamilton Harbour, key industrial areas within the City and the North End residential area making this public open green space an essential part of the community. The park is home to (4) softball/baseball fields, soccer field, a basketball court, a multi-purpose court, an accessible creative play structure, a spray pad, sun shelter/washroom/changeroom building and open space for recreational and passive use. The park is also home to Eastwood Arena providing the community with year-round recreational opportunities.

While the park provides important recreational and open green space opportunities to the North End community, it also includes some critical infrastructure in the form of a combined sewer overflow tank beneath the park that is designed to improve the water quality of nearby Hamilton Harbour.

With the park being established by the City of Hamilton Parks Board in the 1920's, and the most recent major developments having taken place in 1995, a large portion of the parks existing amenities have reached the end of their service life and require replacements/upgrades, including the spray pad which is the subject of Report PW21054.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Spray pads are designed to consider accessibility standards included in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Built Environment Standard contained within that act.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

- Corporate Services Financial Planning, Administration and Policy staff has reviewed and support the recommendations in Report PW21054.
- Staff consultation will continue as part of the next steps to complete the Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund application.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

With Eastwood Park being established by the City of Hamilton Parks Board in the 1920's, and the most recent major developments having taken place in 1995, a large portion of the parks existing amenities have reached the end of their service life and require replacements/upgrades. Staff are currently working on redeveloping the aging spray pad within the park and anticipate construction of that taking place in the spring of 2022 pending capital budget approvals. When reviewing the application requirements, this project was deemed a good candidate for this grant program as a shovel-ready project that can be delivered within the program requirements. There is community support for this project, as evidenced by the response to the initial design ideas survey conducted in 2021. The Ward Councillor has advocated for this improvement, and Parks Operations staff have confirmed that this spray pad is nearing end of useful asset life.

With the park serving as an important open space and recreational resource for the community, the spray pad is seen as being an essential component to the health and wellbeing of the community during summer months, particularly during extreme heat events which have become more common. A public spray pad such as the one at Eastwood Park serves as a cooling amenity and offers residents a mechanism to help cope with the heat during the summer.

The Eastwood Park Spray Pad will be developed as an accessible amenity for all ages where families can gather and enjoy the recreational feature during the summer months. The Eastwood Park Spray Pad project aligns with the Ontario Trillium Foundation program's expected outcomes in the following ways:

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- Maximize use of facility – provide a spray pad facility that utilizes modern technology to reduce wasteful water and lessen the burden on existing sewer/storm infrastructure.
- Extend life of facility – The existing facility is at the end of its service life and cannot meet the medium to long term needs of the community. The proposed spray pad will have a life expectancy of 20-25 years and lower operational impacts than that of maintaining the current facility.
- Improve accessibility of facility – The spray pad will be designed to meet and exceed accessibility standards for the design of public spaces, ensuring it is a park feature that is inviting and user friendly for all.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement and 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.

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” to Report PW21054 - Location map of spray pad in Eastwood Park

Appendix “B” to Report PW21054 - Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Fund – Capital Stream Project List

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