

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Cherry Beach Waterfront Park

From: Lakewood Beach Community Council

Sent: March 31, 2021 3:38 PM

To: DL - Council Only <dlcouncilonly@hamilton.ca>; clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Cherry Beach Waterfront Park

Dear Honourable Mayor & Council

For those that don't know, the Cherry Beach project is located just east of Millen Road along Lake Ontario & encompasses approximately 300ms of waterfront . Land Acquisitions at about \$500K per lot have also been made and rumour has it are part of a pre-amalgamation township agreement to buy the private lands and build a waterfront park in the City of Stoney Creek - like Hamilton had & did with Confed Park.

The Cherry Beach park account was originally approved as a \$500,000 financed project back in 2013. In 2014, Council approved Report PW14039 respecting Cherry Beach Parkland Acquisition Strategy which was not released as a public document.

The project itself, and how much the pre-amalgamated Stoney Creek and post-amalgamated Hamilton taxpayers have actually been spending, is shrouded in mystery for what we believe has been at least 30 years; maybe longer.

We have just noticed that the Cherry Beach Waterfront Park project seems to be moving along and has received \$200,000 of funding to "clear the land" this year in the 2021 budget.

Since our inquiry involves many departments, we are submitting our questions as Council correspondence.

1. What does "land clearing" entail? (we've lost a significant tree canopy already with the Emerald Ash Borer, Confed Sports Park clear cutting, Green-Millen Shores Development as well as experienced significant shoreline erosions due to Climate Change)
2. And if this means, clear cut, why is that occurring prior to a final design; or has a design been decided upon unbeknownst to the community?
3. In December 2017, the total project expenditures at that time were \$2.4M from the \$3.3M funded (see email below) ; so why does this year's budget only indicate \$1.1M in expenditures pre-2021?
4. We also noticed the final construction is estimated to be an additional \$869K. This appears to be roughly the same cost as an 800m long paved pathway/Waterfront bike route. Is that what is planned for the land... after spending ~ \$5 million dollars?
5. Have all the properties been acquired, and if so, what is the final tally? (we have estimated north of \$5M)
6. Regardless of if the tally is \$5M or \$10M, why hasn't the community been provided with details of the design or been allowed to have any input in the design?

**CITY OF HAMILTON
2021-2045 CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECT DETAIL SHEET**

Division/Department: Open Space Development - Public Works Tax Funded **Project ID:** 4402156120
Project Name: Cherry Beach Park

Objective:

2021 land clearing of future park area. Future funding for park design and construction. Waterfront park in Stoney Creek, includes Recreational Trail Masterplan initiative 10-5.

| Expenses (000's) | Total | Pre 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Construction | 780 | | | | | 780 | | |
| Design | 100 | | | 100 | | | | |
| Other Capital Expenditures | 309 | | 200 | 20 | | 89 | | |
| Total: Expenses | 1,189 | | 200 | 120 | | 869 | | |

| Revenues (000's) | Total | Pre 2021 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Dev Charges - Non-Res-TCA | 44 | | | 5 | | 39 | | |
| Dev Charges - Res-TCA | 846 | | | 103 | | 743 | | |
| Parkland Dedication Reserve | 200 | | 200 | | | | | |
| Total: Revenues | 1,090 | | 200 | 108 | | 782 | | |

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Viv / Anna / Nancy
Lakewood Beach Community Council

c.c. Lakewood Beach Community Council members

*Exerpt of email from 2018:

Cherry Beach also received 30,000 from the Heritage Green Sports Park in the same report.

A summary of the revenue and expenditures for this project is below. If you have any additional questions please let me know.

The Cherry Beach project, since 2013, has received the following revenues:

- \$163,625 revenues from land sales
- \$861,577.32 revenues from tax sources
- \$134,538.30 revenues from reserve
- \$2,166,000 revenues from parkland dedication reserve
- Total funding to date: \$3,325,740.62.

Expenditures are summarized below:

- Consulting & Design services – \$857,810.36 – this includes archaeology and aboriginal monitors, area linkages assessment, design and construction administration
- Construction services - \$1,523,881.06 – this includes the shoreline protection construction work completed in 2016.
- Other incidentals including appraisals, postage, etc. - \$47,895.31

- Total expenditures: \$2,429,586.73
- This doesn't include money that is still committed in PO's, totalling \$213,237.43, which is left committed to respond to any required DFO work within the 2 year warranty period.

Work still required on this park –

- acquisition of property for the park
- Park design, to start once the land is acquired.
- Park construction.