

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Public Works Committee: December 4, 2023

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR M. FRANCIS.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR J.P. DANKO.....

Wild Waterworks Commercial Opportunities and Strategic Review (Ward 5)

WHEREAS, the Wild Waterworks facilities are owned by the City and operated by the Hamilton Conservation Authority;

WHEREAS, the structures at the park were built in the 1980’s and therefore are anticipated to reach end-of-life condition in the next several years;

WHEREAS, significant capital reinvestment is required to redevelop Wild Waterworks facilities once the structures can no longer safely operate and was outlined in Report HC20048 which was received by Emergency and Community Services committee on November 5, 2020;

WHEREAS, the venue has historically attracted around 100,000 visitors annually, and has the potential to continue to provide an economic and tourist benefit to the City; and

WHEREAS, the current venue and site within Confederation Beach Park provides a strategic opportunity to leverage City property to achieve realizable outcomes related to the City’s Council and Strategic priorities include the City’s Tourism Plan, the Recreation Master Plan, and the goals laid out in the Confederation Beach Park Master Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That staff be directed to investigate opportunities for the redevelopment of the Wild Waterworks site and surrounding lands within Confederation Beach Park, with a focus on, but not limited to, examination of:
 - (i) Investment community and operator/developer interest in creating a water themed entertainment/recreation attraction/venue at Confederation Beach Park;

- (ii) The potential for the venue to include a broad range of attractions/uses to make a viable destination;
 - (iii) Viable development concepts identified through financial and market feasibility testing;
 - (iv) Various models and options that maximize the contributions of private sector partners with the required experience and know how to execute on the City's objectives; and
 - (v) Processes for securing a viable development and proponent.
- (b) That Corporate Real Estate staff, in collaboration with Parks, Finance and other divisional staff, be directed and authorized to seek input and support from industry experts, and that the cost of the work be funded by reallocating up to \$200,000 from existing Project ID 4401956802 Beach Park Development Program to a new Project ID, to be used to fund the analysis, including retention of requisite advisors/consultants, be approved;
- (c) That staff be directed to report back to the General Issues Committee with recommendations regarding the scope of work and the process to move forward, based on findings; and
- (d) That the General Manager of Planning and Economic Development be authorized and directed to approve and execute any and all required agreements and ancillary documents, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, related to the investigation of opportunities for the potential redevelopment of the Wild Waterworks site and surrounding lands within Confederation Beach Park.