



Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	November 4, 2024
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Pathway Proposal by the Rockton Lions Club at Beverly Community Park, 680 Hwy. No. 8 (Flamborough) (PW24068) (Ward 13) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 13
PREPARED BY:	S. Cellini (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4441 J. Collins (905) 546-2424 Ext.1075 A. McDonald (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2738
SUBMITTED BY:	Cynthia Graham Director, Environmental Services Public Works
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Public Works Committee at its meeting of March 20, 2023, approved a motion that directed staff to:

- a) Review the feasibility and design of a new pedestrian path at Beverly Community Park located at 680 Hwy. No. 8 (Flamborough) and to support the development of agreements as needed for the donation to be funded by the Rockton Lions Club;
- b) Report back with estimates for construction and ongoing operating costs and related financing plan upon completion of the review of the feasibility and design of a new pedestrian path at Beverly Community Park located at 680 Hwy. No. 8 (Flamborough); and,
- c) Execute any and all required agreements and ancillary documents related to the review of the feasibility and design of a new pedestrian path at Beverly Community Park located at 680 Hwy. No. 8 (Flamborough).

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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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This report fulfils the motion noted above, by providing feasibility and construction estimates. Further, through the authority of the above noted motion, staff are working with the City of Hamilton legal staff and the Rockton Lions Club to prepare the necessary agreements to undertake the path creation at Beverly Community Park.

INFORMATION

In June 2022, Parks & Cemeteries were contacted by members of the Rockton Lions Club with a request to review site conditions and discuss the opportunity for a new pathway to be constructed within the Beverly Community Park, funded from donations fundraised by the Rockton Lions Club. Staff identified that there was no capital budget available for this project, nor was it identified as a project on the Parks & Cemeteries approved workplan. However, staff recognized the opportunity presented by Rockton Lions Club and the positive community benefit associated with a new park pathway asset at Beverly Park.

While this project is in addition to the extensive existing work plan, staff have been reviewing the site to understand feasibility and design for the proposed new asset. Progress on the project was delayed due to the City of Hamilton's Cybersecurity Incident that occurred on February 25, 2024. This incident disabled some IT systems and led to a reprioritization of tasks, impacting the timeline for reporting to Council and the development of the agreements. The below list outlines tasks that have been completed to date:

- 1) Parks & Cemeteries staff consulted with Hamilton Conservation Authority, and received confirmation March 7, 2023, that the layout and detailing of the pathway would be in conformity with engineering and floodplain regulations, and would be waived from requiring formal permit applications.
- 2) Motion brought before Public Works Committee on March 20, 2023, by Councillor Alex Wilson, Ward 13.
- 3) Geomatics staff surveyed the site and forwarded completed topographical survey drawings on May 18, 2023.
- 4) Due to the nature of the project, additional information was requested by staff to Rockton Lions Club related to construction, maintenance, ownership, risk and liability. Rockton Lions Club provided information following the discussions on January 22, 2024.

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- 5) February 7, 2024 the Rockton Lions Club confirmed that they plan to act as General Contractor on the project, and that they have funding currently in place to start the project.
- 6) Public Works Committee Report PW24068 November 4, 2024 to respond to requirement to report on path feasibility and operating costs.

When determining the feasibility of this project, staff considered the opportunity against the public good, financial sustainability and long-term use of this asset and concluded that the asset would be of great benefit to park users and to the community at large.

Similar walking paths exist in other similar Parks, especially when considering the other assets located at Beverly Park, which hosts great numbers of users seeking facilities for active and passive recreational activities (i.e., running, cycling, walking).

The addition of this asset in a rural community where sidewalks and other, safe accessible, barrier-free pathways do not exist would be of benefit. Additionally, the pathway can be used by residents and visitors of all ages and abilities, adding functional and accessible connections between facilities on the site, such as the arena, playground, picnic shelter, tennis courts and sports fields.

Based on this, staff are satisfied with the site conditions, preliminary approval from the Hamilton Conservation Authority regarding the draft path layout, confirmed operational budget impacts and can confirm the pathway project is feasible to proceed to the next the steps, subject to an executed agreement and operational dollars for 2025.

Estimates for construction of the path are approximately \$200K. Ongoing operating costs are \$10K and are based on the current Beverly Community Park Sub-Committee Agreement, as well as an understanding with the Rockton Lions Club, that no winter maintenance of the pathway will be performed.

The park is currently maintained by a rural sub-committee, staff will ensure that this committee is consulted with next steps and any ongoing construction timing.

The Rockton Lions Club confirmed that all construction is to be funded by the Rockton Lions Club, and to be formalized via the legal agreement, and at no capital costs to the City of Hamilton. The Rockton Lions Club will, following Council receipt of Report PW24068, continue to add to their funding by gathering donations of funds, materials, and in-kind labour and equipment as required for construction.

Next Steps:

Staff will work towards completion of bullet (c) of the March 20, 2023, Public Works Committee Motion which directs Staff to execute agreements related to the pathway project. Staff will continue to work with Legal and Procurement to finalize and execute an agreement between the Rockton Lions Club, their contractor and the City to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Public Works, including any formal recognition of the donation based on City's best practices.

Staff have been working to ensure that the project scope, construction details and donation agreement recognize the responsibilities of all parties involved. All parties will be sent the draft agreement to review and comment prior to execution (i.e., signing).

Staff will submit a budget detail sheet to the 2025 budget process, to identify the operating costs for approval.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report PW24068 – Conceptual Plan for proposed Beverly Park Pathway