



Municipality of Port Hope

56 Queen Street
Port Hope, ON
L1A 3Z9

REPORT TO: Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee

FROM: Floyd Beattie, Manager, Parks and Facilities

SUBJECT: Port Hope Rotary Centennial Project

DATE: September 7, 2021

RECOMMENDATION:

That a resolution be presented to Council to support proceeding with the Rotary Centennial Project and the development of the fish ladder park area; and further,

That a resolution be presented to Council to authorize a fundraising campaign in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Port Hope; and further,

That the draft concept be posted for public comment from September 8, 2021, until September 24, 2021, with a report summarizing comments and feedback to be presented at a future Council meeting for final approval.

BACKGROUND:

In September of 2020, Parks Recreation and Culture (PRC) was approached by members of the Rotary Club of Port Hope outlining the desire to complete a substantial project for their upcoming one hundredth (100th) anniversary in 2022. Rotary brought forward a number of different options and, after working with staff, decided they would like to enhance the fish ladder park area. The goal is to create a unique focal point for both visitors and residents to enjoy, while recognizing the significant contributions of Rotary in the community.

Staff, PRC Advisory Committee, and Waterfront and Riverwalk Working Group reviewed the concept draft plan and are in support of the project and will continue to work to completing a final design. The site includes an existing trail that is named (Molson's Mill Trail) but the parkland is not currently named. There will be no change to the name of the existing trail at this location, but the Rotary Club of Port Hope is considering requesting to name the park, of which details will be forth coming. The Municipality is currently completing land surveying in the area to confirm property lines and ownership, which will be targeted to be completed for final approval to proceed.

PRC Staff and the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) are working collaboratively with the Rotary Club of Port Hope to ensure that this project meets the ecological and usage needs and requirements of the area. The concept proposal and scope is to remove some of the downed trees and invasive species impacting the site, as well as the overgrowth of scrub brush. The trails will be designed in such a way to allow for drainage and will be constructed using accessible wood fiber chip. The concept drawings show three (3) look out points that will allow viewing of the river and three (3) gazebo's in the area for enjoyment of all visitors and residents, as well as additional plantings, benches and trail signage

The draft concept design and proposal (**Attached 2021.09.07 Draft Concept Rotary Centennial Project**) was presented to the Waterfront and Riverwalk working group and proceeding with the project was supported. The PRC Advisory Committee supported the project through the following motion.

PRC 20/2021

Moved by B. Pemberton

Seconded by C. Wickett

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee supports the Rotary Centennial Project draft concept plan based on the excellent work of the Rotary Club provided to the Municipality, with the understanding that the GRCA, Waterfront and River Walk Working Group, and municipal staff are involved in a finalization of the design plan in a timely fashion.

CARRIED

Staff, GRCA, and the Rotary Club will continue to work to completing the final design for the area, inclusive of community and committee feedback. A final report will be forward for Council approval.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Rotary Club of Port Hope have indicated that they currently have some funding allocated for this project and will be hosting a fundraising campaign in partnership with the Municipality. Some in-kind contributions from the Municipality for staff and maintenance in the project area are planned and are included as part of regular operating practices.

CONCLUSION:

The Rotary Club has identified that they would like to complete this project to celebrate their Centennial anniversary. The benefit for this project is to enhance this park area for the enjoyment of all.

Respectfully submitted,

Floyd Beattie, RRFS
Manager, Parks and Facilities