



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Corporate Report

Report from Transportation and Environmental Services, Engineering and Construction

Date of Report: August 30, 2013

Date of Meeting: September 23, 2013

Report Number: TES-286-2013

File: 68.31.103

Subject: Rennie Park Grading

Recommendation

That Council receive this report for information purposes.

Background

On April 29, 2013 Councillor Williamson requested that staff “report on what remedial action can be taken to address the serious public safety hazard caused by the settling of ground in Rennie Park (has now become a recurrent problem with the winter freeze / thaw cycles; water pools on walkways, particularly near the middle of park. Tender to repair before Winter 2014)”

Rennie Park is located at the north end of Martindale Pond in Port Dalhousie. It is composed of three areas. The most northerly section is located on lands which were formerly the Muir Brothers Dockyard and the First Welland Canal, a middle section which was created with dredged material and a southerly “island” section also created with material dredged out of Martindale Pond in the mid 1990’s and the former Third Welland Canal lock approaches. A judges’ timing stand for the Henley Rowing Course is located in the south west corner of the middle section of the park. Walking paths crisscross the middle section and circumnavigate the island portion of the path.

Report

Council’s area of concern is a paved path which crosses the middle section of the park. The path is constructed on fill. The area is generally very flat. The area is only slightly above the high water level of Martindale Pond. Hence there is very little elevation available to create slopes for drainage purposes.

Through time, the dredged material used to create the park has settled unevenly. The path of concern is used as a driveway or for parking vehicles during rowing and other special events. The path has settled more than the grass areas abutting the path creating an opportunity for water to pond. Because of the ponding, the asphalt surface has deteriorated.

RCS and TES Staff arranged for topographic survey and considered several options to address the concerns. Staff recommend approximately 150 metres of path should be raised a maximum of 600mm to create the elevation changes necessary to allow for satisfactory drainage. A sketch, Appendix 1 attached, indicates the approximate location of the proposed construction. To raise the area fill must be imported. A preliminary cost estimate for the proposed construction is \$70,000.

All less costly alternatives considered by staff were determined to be ineffective in reducing the path ponding due to the lack of existing elevation above Martindale Pond's water level.

Financial Implications

The proposed construction would typically be financed by the Special projects account of the RCS Operating Budget. At this time the project has been identified in early budget submissions but is unaffordable if 2013 approved budget limits are maintained due to other corporate priorities. It is anticipated that the repair work will be completed well in advance of the PAN AM games in 2015.

Submitted by and:

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Rennie Park Drainage Improvements