



Corporate Report

Report from Parks, Recreation and Culture Services, Programs and Cultural Services

Date of Report: November 13, 2017

Date of Meeting: November 15, 2017

Report Number: PRCS-B054-2017

File: 68.31.99

Subject: Splash Pad – North St. Catharines

Recommendation

That the Budget Standing Committee review the recommendation from Council, that states:

Further, that Council refer the report to the Budget Standing Committee meeting for their consideration of operating costs to open the splash pad in 2018.

Background

At its October 16, 2017 meeting Council approved the following motion:

“That Council approve the Port Weller Community Centre/Bogart Street Park as the preferred location for the North St. Catharines splash pad; and

That Council direct staff to proceed to the procurement process of the design and build; and

That staff be directed to include in the procurement process consideration for a cistern for reusing gray water for irrigation of current soccer fields; and

That the amount not exceed \$400,000; and

That the additional costs for a cistern for reusing gray water for irrigation of current soccer fields be included; and

Further that staff review the Capital Budget to confirm this can be accommodated.”

Amendments to the above motion were voted on and passed:

That the splash pad will be completed and opened by July 1, 2018.

Further, that Council refer the report to the Budget Standing Committee meeting for their consideration of operating costs to open the splash pad in 2018.

Report

Report PRCS-250-2017 Site Selection for North St. Catharines Splash Pad, attached as Appendix 1, is now before the Budget Standing Committee for consideration of the operating costs to open the splash pad in 2018.

Financial Implications

At this time, there are none.

Prepared & Submitted by: Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk

Approved by: Kristine Douglas, Director of Financial Management Services



Corporate Report

Report from Parks, Recreation and Culture Services, Programs and Cultural Services

Date of Report: September 11, 2017

Date of Meeting: October 16, 2017

Report Number: PRCS-250-2017

File: 68.31.99

Subject: Site Selection for North St. Catharines Splash Pad

Recommendation

That Council approve the Port Weller Community Centre / Bogart Street Park as the preferred location for the North St. Catharines splash pad; and

That Council direct staff to proceed to the procurement process of the design and build; and

That staff be directed to include in the procurement process consideration for a cistern for reusing gray water for irrigation of current soccer fields; and

That the amount not exceed \$400,000; and

Further, that Council refer the report to the Budget Standing Committee Meeting for their consideration of operating costs to open the splash pad in 2018. FORTHWITH

Background

On March 21, 2016, Council received a report on the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy ([Report PRCS-061-2016](#)) and approved the following motion made by Councillor Phillips:

“That Council approve in principle the City of St. Catharines Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy (Appendix 1); and

That Council direct staff to amend the 2013 Capital Budget for the purpose of reallocating \$1,110,000, previously designated for the renewal of facilities at Lancaster Park and Burgoyne Woods to implement the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy including:

1. Costs associated with the decommissioning and demolition of pools located at Lancaster Park, Arthur Street and Burgoyne Woods.
2. The construction of a splash pad to be located at the north end of the city; and

That a task force be established to determine the future Aquatic Strategy. FORTHWITH”

On August 22, 2016, Council approved the following motion made by Councillor Garcia:

“That Council appoint Councillors Phillips and Stevens to the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force; and

That Council approve the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force Terms of Reference (Appendix 1). FORTHWITH”

The Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force (Task Force) has the following purpose:

“In line with the Recreation Facilities and Programming Master Plan the task force will report directly to City Council on the implementation of the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy, specifically:

- the location, amenities / features and long term feasibility of splash pads
- the location, amenities / features and long term feasibility of a destination themed outdoor aquatic facility”.

The full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be found in Appendix 1.

The City’s Recreation Master Plan (RMP) outlines the basic requirements for outdoor aquatics:

“In tandem with Master Plan’s the outdoor pool implementation strategy, splash pads should be distributed in a manner that ensures each of the six municipal wards have reasonable geographic access to a splash pad or continue to have access to an outdoor pool. The preferred location of future splash pads is within District or large Neighbourhood level parks.”

Splash pads currently exist in the following parks / wards (Appendix 2):

Lester B. Pearson Park	St. George’s Ward
Catherine Street Park	St. Patrick’s Ward
West Park	St. Andrew’s Ward

Outdoor pools currently exists in the following areas (Appendix 2):

Lion Dunc Schooley Pool	Merritton Ward
Port Dalhousie Pool	Port Dalhousie Ward
Lincoln Park Small Pool	St. Andrew’s Ward

The City has one indoor pool located at the St. Catharines Kiwanis Aquatics Centre in St. George’s Ward.

Report

RMP Site selection criteria used to define site options

Based on the Council approved Recreation Master Plan's Site Selection Criteria for Major Recreational Facilities (Appendix 3), staff and the Task Force mapped out eight possible locations within the northern section of St. Catharines. These sites were all existing municipal parks and generally met most of the approved criteria (Appendix 4).

Site selection process reviewed all options

A review of each site was conducted to determine if they aligned with the selection criteria and given a rating for further investigation. The analysis of the preferred sites (A and B sites) was further examined by the Aquatics Task Force with site visits and a more detailed review of the site's alignment with both the Selection Criteria and the RMP. With this discussion, the unanimous choice for the location of the North End Splash Pad was the Port Weller Community Centre / Bogart Park (Appendix 5).

On June 6, 2017, the Task Force approved the following motion:

“That Port Weller Community Centre be the chosen site for the new outdoor splash pad”.

Public consultation

City staff held a Public Information Meeting on September 7, 2017, at the Port Weller Community Centre to present the preferred site option to the surrounding neighbourhood, interested community groups and the public at large. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Task Force and approximately 25 residents. The general view of the preferred splash pad location was positive. Some of the concerns voiced at the meeting involved:

- the potential for increased traffic on Bogart Street, parking congestion at the community centre;
- the removal of the existing drop in baseball diamond;
- overall security for the park; and
- the availability of washrooms when the community centre is not open.

These concerns were address at the meeting with the rationale outlined below:

Traffic and parking

Typically, a neighbourhood splash pad does not generate large amounts of vehicular traffic or parking based on the experience with other existing splash pads. More users are walking to this type of recreation and with the addition of this fourth splash pad and the even geographical distribution in the city, the need to drive to a site is reduced.

Drop in baseball diamond removal

The existing baseball diamond is supplied as a drop in field. It is not permitted and is not in the inventory of available fields that the City currently permits for

games or practices. Informal play could continue within the greenspace of the park.

Park security

With the proximity of the community centre to the splash pad and the potential for increased programming within the centre, the amount of natural surveillance will increase within the park. With City staff on site to provide assistance and reporting, the level of security is elevated from a stand-alone park site.

Washroom availability

The goal is to increase programming within the centre, which will provide a broad window of time where the washrooms are open; when it is not open, a portable washroom will be placed onsite for public use.

On September 13, 2017, the Aquatics Task Force approved the following motion:

“The Task Force supports the splash pad in the north end of St. Catharines. The Task Force support the staff report and make the following comments:

1. The installation of a cistern for reusing gray water for irrigation of current soccer fields to be considered.
2. Pursue opportunities for Provincial and Federal funding to enhance projects at Port Weller Community Centre for accessibility as an example to bring washrooms to current accessibility standards.
3. Splash pad will be substantially open no later than the end of June 2018.”

Staff support the Task Force’s motion and have included the recommended location and consideration of a cistern for water reuse for Council’s approval in the recommendation within this report.

This project and related site improvements will be considered and pursued as applicable when Provincial and Federal funding opportunities become available.

Although staff will plan the project towards an opening in June 2018, it will be resourced and prioritized with all corporate initiatives and work plans, which may impact that timing and costs.

Financial Implications

The RFP will utilize the funds approved by Council on March 21, 2016, to fund a splash pad in the north end of the City.

Dependent on the splash pad opening date, additional operating costs need to be considered and included within the 2018 Operating Budget. Water costs are estimated to be \$68,500 for a full season operation, based on similar amenities within the City.

This amount is included in the draft 2018 Operating Budget for the operation of the new West Park splash pad, however, the North End Splash Pad operating costs have not yet been included in the 2018 Operating Budget prior to approval from Council to proceed with the recommended procurement that is outlined within this report.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

Social sustainability action item 4.1, prioritize and implement recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan with a focus on balancing recreation services for all ages, demographics and abilities.

Prepared by:

Stuart Green, Landscape Architect
Jennifer Green, Aquatics Supervisor

Submitted by:

Amy Tomaino, Manager of Business Planning and Strategic Services
Lori Mambella, Manager of Programs and Cultural Services (Acting)

Approved by:

Phil Cristi, Director, Parks, Recreation and Culture Services (Acting)



Corporate Report

Report from Parks, Recreation and Culture Services, Programs and Cultural Services

Date of Report: July 27, 2016

Date of Meeting: August 22, 2016

Report Number: PRCS-195-2016

File: 35.65.100

Subject: Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force – Terms of Reference

Recommendation

That Council appoint two Councillors to the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force; and

That Council approve the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force Terms of Reference (Appendix 1). FORTHWITH

Background

At its meeting on March 21, 2016, City Council approved the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy and the following motion by Councillor Phillips:

That a task force be established to determine the future Aquatic Strategy.

At its meeting on June 14, 2016, the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee approved the following motion:

That the task force include between 1 and 3 representatives from the Recreation Facilities and Programming Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee.

Report

The Task Force will review and make recommendations to Council on the location, amenities/features and long term feasibility of splash pads and a destination themed outdoor aquatic facility. The Task Force will report their findings directly to City Council through Parks, Recreation and Culture Services. The proposed terms of reference for the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Task Force are attached as Appendix 1.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications of creating the Task Force.

On March 21, 2016, Council approved an amendment to the 2013 Capital Budget to fund a splash pad in the north end of the City. The Task Force will report to Council on

the feasibility of additional splash pads and a destination themed outdoor aquatic facility.

Relationship to Strategic Plan

Social sustainability action item 4.1, prioritize and implement recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan with a focus on balancing recreation services for all ages, demographics and abilities.

Prepared by:

Kristen Sullivan
Project and Development Planner

Submitted and Approved by:

Phil Cristi, Acting Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture Services

Appendix

Terms of Reference

Statement of Purpose

In line with the Recreation Facilities and Programming Master Plan the task force will report directly to City Council on the implementation of the Outdoor Aquatic Facilities Strategy, specifically:

- The location, amenities/features and long term feasibility of splash pads
- The location, amenities/features and long term feasibility of a destination themed outdoor aquatic facility

Composition

The task force shall be comprised of up to 5 – 7 voting members as follows:

- 2 Councillors
- 1 – 3 members of the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee
- 2 members of the public who are not members of the organizations listed below

One individual representing the following organizations will be invited to attend task force meetings as guests:

- YMCA
- Brock University
- Garden City Aquatic Club
- West Park Aquatic Club – Niagara Swims

Term of Appointments

The task force will be automatically disbanded once final reports have been prepared and considered by Council on:

- The location, amenities/features and long term feasibility of splash pads
- The location, amenities/features and long term feasibility of a destination themed outdoor aquatic facility

Reporting Structure

The task force will report their findings directly to City Council through the Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Department.

A staff liaison and administrative support to the task force will be provided by the Parks, Recreation and Culture Services Department, which shall assign a Secretary to the Committee.

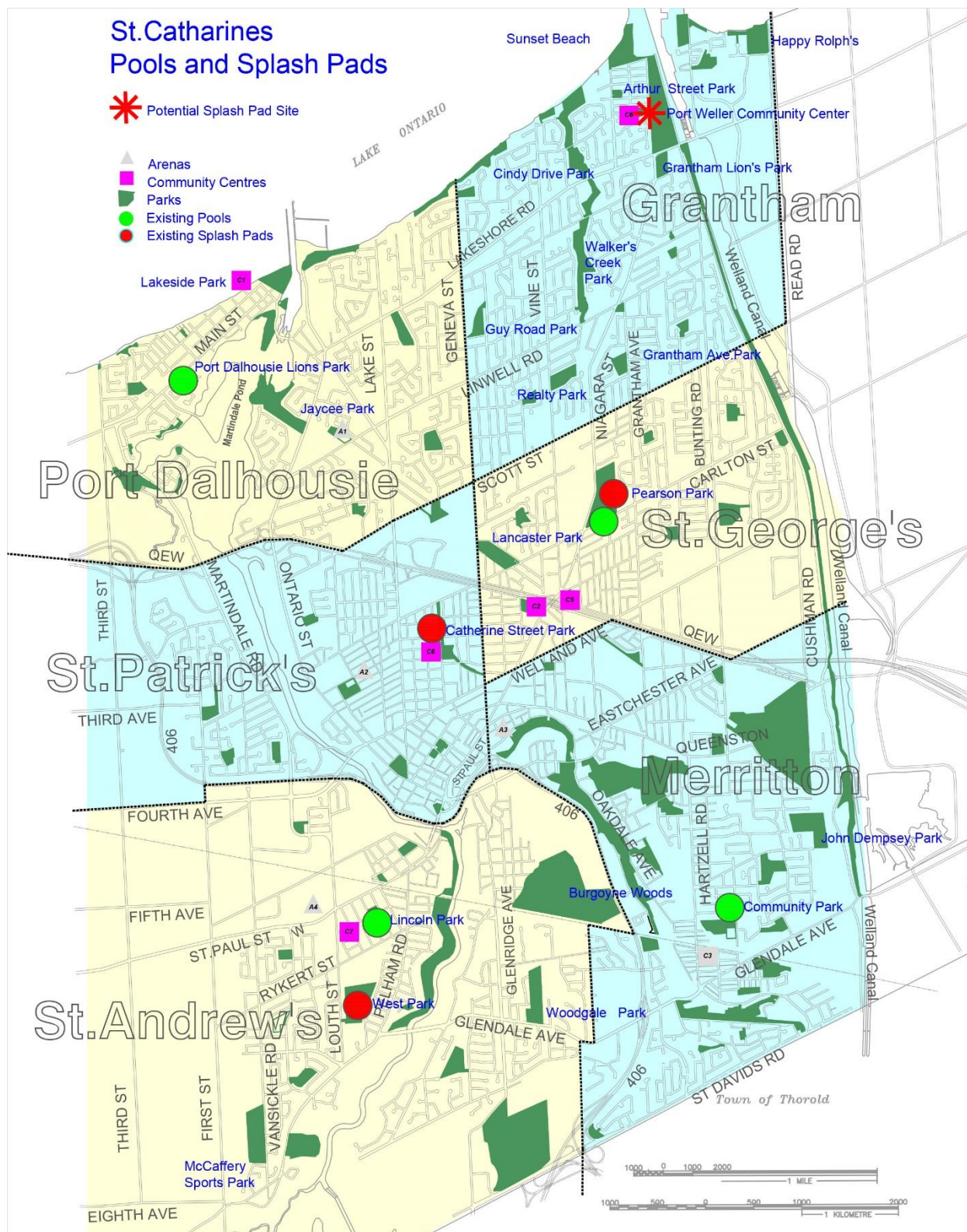
Additional staff resources will be provided by Transportation and Environmental Services and other departments as required.

Schedule of Meetings

The task force will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5 pm or at the call of the Chair, as required.

Other

The task force shall conduct its meetings in accordance with and otherwise comply with the City of St. Catharines Simplified Meeting Procedures for advisory bodies. Notwithstanding the Simplified Rules of Procedure, the two councillors may vote.



6.2 Site Selection Criteria for Major Recreation Facilities

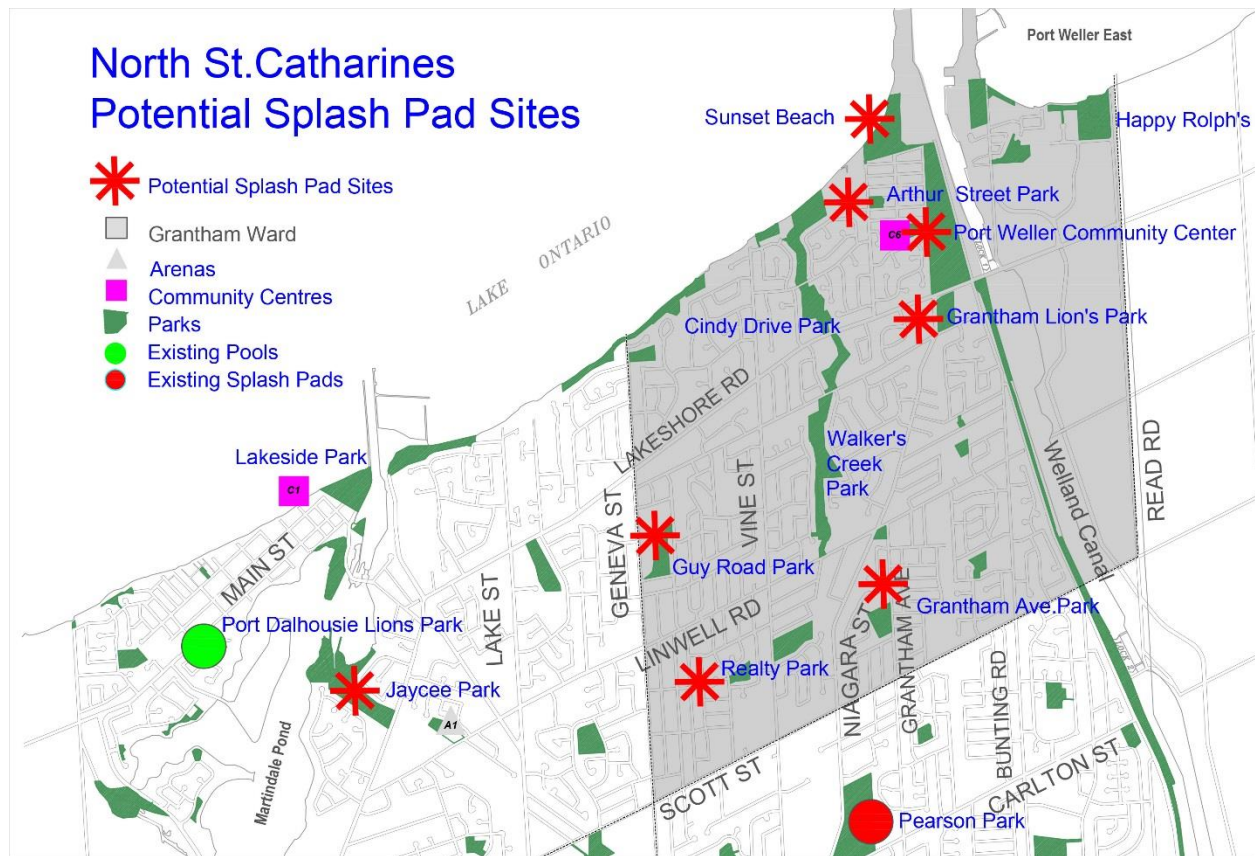
In evaluating and selecting preferred sites for new and/or redeveloped recreation facilities, the City should use the minimum site selection criteria presented in Table 6.

Table 6: Possible Site Selection Criteria for New and Expanded Recreation Facilities

Criteria	Considerations
Location and Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is within reasonable proximity to existing and future residential areas. The site is located along an arterial or collector road, is in the vicinity of a sidewalk or walkway with lighting during the evening, and has barrier-free access. The site is reasonably serviced by public transit
Focal Point Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is located at or has the potential to be a community focal point and the site is at a highly visible location.
Site Development Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site area and shape are sufficient for the proposed use and provide a reasonable level of flexibility in design. The site is able to accommodate enough on-site and/or nearby parking for both patrons and staff.
Community Compatibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The facility would be compatible (in terms of building design, scale, landscaping, setbacks, etc.) with the surrounding area/buildings.
Known Constraints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is not unduly impacted by a geographic barrier (e.g. watercourse, rail line), is not restricted by easement/man-made obstructions, does not require site decommissioning (e.g. brownfield), and is relatively flat. Suitable infrastructure exists (e.g. sewers, water, etc.) on or adjacent to the site. The site does not require the demolition of an existing and needed building or elimination of necessary parkland, parking or other vital land use.



Criteria	Considerations
Planning Approval Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site complies with Environmental Assessment Act and Official Plan policies, and has acceptable Zoning By-Law regulations or there is planning support for amending the planning documents.
Availability of Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site is owned by the City (preferable), the site is currently for sale, and/or the site presents a viable partnership opportunity.
Expansion Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site possesses long-term expansion potential.
Amenity Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site has the ability to enhance and/or support other facilities or parkland, accommodate potential partners, and generate increased usage due to proximity to other locations. The site offers the potential for economies of scale in construction and/or operation due to the co-location of other municipal and/or community services.
Enhanced Design Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site has the ability to incorporate outdoor parkland/features and architecturally integrate with surrounding buildings.





Port Weller Community Centre Splash Pad Concept Plan
City of St. Catharines