



SUBJECT: Community Donation

TO: Environment, Infrastructure & Community Services Cttee.

FROM: Recreation, Community and Culture Department

Report Number: RCC-05-22

Wards Affected: 2 and 4

File Numbers: 930-01

Date to Committee: May 7, 2022

Date to Council: May 17, 2022

Recommendation:

Authorize the Director of Recreation, Community and Culture to accept the donation from Patrick J McNally Foundation for various recreation and park infrastructure amenities as outlined in recreation, community and culture department report RCC-05-22; and

Authorize the Director of Recreation, Community and Culture to execute a donation agreement, subject to the satisfaction of the Executive Director of Legal Services and Corporation Counsel, with the Patrick J McNally Foundation for various recreation and park infrastructure amenities as outlined in recreation, community and culture department report RCC-05-22; and

Authorize the Director of Engineering to incorporate the various recreation and park amenities donated by the Patrick J McNally Foundation, into the applicable park improvement projects as outlined in recreation, community and culture department report RCC-05-22.

PURPOSE:

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
 - Support sustainable infrastructure and a resilient environment
 - Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
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Background and Discussion:

The City of Burlington and the Patrick J McNally Foundation (the Foundation) have developed an excellent relationship and in recent years have partnered on the design and construction of various recreational facilities throughout the City. In 2018, the Foundation funded a water service and splash pad for Bolus Park as part of the KABOOM! community project. They also financed a new water service for the Francis Road community garden.

Most recently the Foundation financed the reconstruction of Valley Inn pedestrian bridge and 100 sheets of artificial ice. Both contributions support year-round outdoor recreational opportunities. The artificial ice provided a much-needed outdoor activity during the pandemic.

The Foundation has now committed to donating \$1.125 million over 2022 and 2023 for the design and construction of new park amenities. Details are provided in the table below.

2022 Projects		
Central Park \$150,000	Accessible multi-user swing	This multi-user swing will accommodate mobility devices and up to four people at once. No wheelchair transfer will be required. This will be the first in Ontario.
Sweetgrass Park \$60,000	Medicine Wheel/Healing Garden	To coincide with the renaming of the park, work will include a park identification sign and interpretive signage. Details and scope of this project will be determined in consultation with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.
Leighland Park \$450,000	Ball hockey/basketball combination court Fitness equipment loop Shade structure w/picnic tables	The park amenities included here will be added to the larger park renewal project that is currently underway. All these additions are requests from the public but could not be accommodated within the park capital program.
2023 Projects		
Lansdown Park \$400,000	Splash pad New water service	This splash pad will be a new feature to the park and designed/constructed as part of the larger park renewal.

Port Nelson Park \$65,000	New water service Drinking fountain with bottle filler	This feature will support this lake-side park and users of the Great Lakes Waterfront Trail, supporting active transportation.
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Further discussions with the Foundation about increasing the City's inventory of park washroom buildings have also been very positive.

Strategy/process

Recognizing the Foundation's desire for implementation within the next 6 to 15 months, current staff workload and the risk of building new park amenities without associated operating budget, the approach for the current funding is to enhance already active park revitalization projects. This will yield efficiency in time and cost. The new park amenities will have a positive community impact and associated operating budget can be captured in the 2023 budget process.

Options Considered

Staff considered other parks and needs in the community but given timing and existing workloads, it was concluded to focus efforts on park projects currently underway to have most opportunity for success.

Staff also considered the option to not accept the donation. However, with a willing donor and strong community interest in parks and park amenities, staff felt it was important to pursue this opportunity.

Financial Matters:

Should the City accept the donation from the Patrick J McNally Foundation, staff will incorporate the park amenities into the design of the park projects.

Total Financial Impact

Total donation to the City is:

- \$660,000 in 2022
- \$465,000 in 2023

Except for the proposed work at Sweetgrass Park, all of the proposed donations will be included in the larger capital revitalization projects currently underway.

Asset Management

The addition of the new park assets will be incorporated into the city's future asset management plan. The assets will be included within the city's asset inventory and will result in operating and capital costs to ensure these assets are maintained in a state of good repair over their useful life.

Operating Budget Impact

Estimated Operating Budget Impact*	2023	2024
Human Resources	\$46,500	
Utilities		\$30,000
Labour/Materials/Purchased Services	\$27,850	\$27,850
Total	\$74,350	\$57,850

* Note - The operating impacts relating to Sweetgrass Park have yet to be determined. Consultation and final design will determine maintenance requirements and operating costs.

To mitigate the above operating budget impact, internal efficiencies will be found through available resources where possible.

Human Resources

Additional staffing is required to operate and maintain these amenities; particularly, the expansion of assets at Leighland Park. This work will require two seasonal staff, one temp and one student, which amounts to \$46,500.

Utilities

The \$30,000 listed for utilities is specifically related to the splash pad at Lansdown Park to cover this service.

Labour/Materials/Purchased Services

With new assets being installed, additional costs to maintain these items through the year are required. This includes work such as required inspections, litter/debris pickup, infrastructure repairs, keeping surfaces clean/safe, grass cutting/trimming and regular annual seasonal-specific maintenance.

Source of Funding

These estimated operating impacts will be phased in over the 2023 and 2024 budgets as the associated assets are slated to be completed. The City's multi-year budget simulation will be updated to reflect these estimated impacts.

Other Resource Impacts

Engineering staff may require additional time to accommodate the enhanced amenities in current park construction projects. The new infrastructure will be captured in the City's asset management plan and will form part of future renewal budgets. In addition, a donation receipt will be issued to the Foundation by the City's Finance Department.

Climate Implications

Climate change has resulted in more extreme weather. Investments in water sources and shade structures will make the park experience more enjoyable for users.

Engagement Matters:

Community feedback received through front line staff, park ambassadors and on-line survey tools, commonly yield similar results for the most requested park features. These include:

- improved access to water - drinking fountains, splash pads
- more shade - trees and built form
- increased seating opportunities - benches and other sitting areas

There have also been many requests for a fully accessible multi-user swing that does not require a transfer station.

Conclusion:

Staff encourages committee to accept the donation from the Patrick J McNally Foundation as part of our mission to enhance the quality of life of everyone every day. Staff can add these additional amenities to existing park renewal projects in 2022 and 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

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Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.