



REPORT FOR ACTION

Donation from Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation to revitalize Humbertown Park

Date: March 23, 2017

To: Parks and Environment Committee

From: General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Wards: Ward 4 - Etobicoke Centre

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from City Council to accept an in-kind donation and enter into an agreement with Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation (Kingsway College School), a Toronto-based registered charity, for the revitalization of Humbertown Park. The scope of work on this project includes upgrades to the playground and improvements to the sports field to address current drainage issues.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to accept an in-kind donation of park refurbishments valued up to \$1 million from Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation, in compliance with the City's Policy on Donations for Community Benefits.
2. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to negotiate and sign a donation and construction agreement with Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation, subject to the City receiving satisfactory evidence that the Kingsway Etobicoke College School has sufficient funds to complete the upgrades, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

The value of the donation is estimated at \$1 million and all costs associated with the project, including the new playground and the rebuilding of the sports field to address drainage issues, will be fully funded by Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation.

Any additional operating costs to maintain the park once the refurbishments are completed, if any, will be accommodated within the existing Council Approved Operating Budget.

The Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on September 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2006, City Council adopted its Donations to the City for Community Benefits policy.

http://www1.toronto.ca/city_of_toronto/toronto_office_of_partnerships/files/pdf/donation_policy.pdf

COMMENTS

Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation has a License Agreement with the City of Toronto for exclusive use of the sports field during school hours and shared use of the surrounding parkland for student recess, physical education classes, and other school activities. As frequent users who benefit from the parkland, the school is eager to make a contribution to the public realm and improve the conditions of the park.

Flooding of the sports field during the spring and fall has proved problematic for school physical education classes and other sport organizations who use the field for their programs. Addressing the drainage issues with a permanent solution will benefit all users of the park, improve the quality of the turf and improve efficiency for parks operations.

Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation sees this project as an opportunity to improve the sports field, to replace the playground, and to incorporate a seating area into the new design that will function as an outdoor classroom.

Implementation

Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation has engaged a project manager and has undertaken geotechnical analysis of the park to assist in finalizing the project components.

Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation will procure all materials and supplies and carry out the construction in accordance with all City by-laws, policies and contractual requirements, including compliance with the City's Fair Wage and Contractual

Obligations in the Construction Industry Policies. Terms requiring adherence to these policies will be included in the construction agreement.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation will work with the School and the local Councillor to undertake public consultation to garner input and feedback on the design and features of the new playground and sports field. It is anticipated that work on this project, if approved, will be undertaken in the summer of 2018 and completed before the start of the new school year in September.

Kingsway Etobicoke School Corporation is a registered charity and will fundraise directly for the project among their community. No charitable receipts from the City for income tax purposes will be required for this donation. The final design for the park will include a commemorative plaque that acknowledges major donors to the project.

The rebuilding of the sports field to address the drainage issues may result in reduced maintenance activity for Parks staff, resulting in reduced operating costs. The new playground design may result in a small operating impact for Parks staff; however, this cannot be articulated until the final design, including size, materials and type of equipment is determined. Parks staff anticipate that this operating impact will be minor and can be accommodated within the current Operating budget.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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