

Staff Report

Report To: Community Services Committee
Report From: Adam Parsons
Meeting Date: November 16, 2022
Report Code: CS-22-147
Subject: Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-147 respecting the draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council approve the plan in principle with any inputs from stakeholders to be brought back at the next meeting for final approval.

Highlights:

- Kelso Beach at Nawash Park is located at 100 19th Street West. The waterfront park is 9 hectares (22 acres), including 926m of shoreline, and features a wide variety of park amenities.
- Kelso Beach at Nawash Park is located within traditional Anishinaabe territory.
- Kelso Beach at Nawash Park is a hub for major outdoor events, including Summerfolk, Canada Day, Family Fun Day, the Subaru Triathlon Series, and reconciliation events at the Gitche Namewikwedong Reconciliation Garden.
- The existing Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan was prepared in 2010. In 2022 staff, along with input from community stakeholders, have undertaken an update to the Master Plan to ensure that the Park continues to meet the needs of user groups and to ensure operational effort and capital planning are aligned with the Plan.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

[Strategic Plan](#) Priority: Service Excellence - KR1 - Further develop a culture of learning, development, well-being and embrace new approaches to service provision

Previous Report/Authority:

[CS-21-135 Kelso Beach Master Plan – Background and Proposed Approach to the Update](#)

[CS-22-112 Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan Public Engagement and Next Steps](#)

[Recreation Parks and Facilities Master Plan](#)

[Official Plan](#)

[Strategic Plan](#)

Background:

The [Kelso Beach Park Master Plan](#), completed in 2010 by Northwood Associates Landscape Architects, has provided guidance in the operations and capital development for the 9.86-hectare shoreline property located at 100 19th Street West over the last ten years. The plan included a schematic park design and 17 recommendations to be phased in with an estimate of cost in 2010 dollars of \$4.7 M. This 2010 Master Plan was based on the community's needs and public consultation as well as a review of park conditions.

A Master Plan is an invaluable tool to ensure the seamless continuity of service delivery to the community and guide decision-makers in ensuring Kelso Beach Park continues to meet the needs of residents and visitors.

To ensure plans are relevant in Parks and Open Spaces, it is a best practice to review, refresh and renew plans a minimum of every ten years.

The existing plan is now 11 years old. Many of the recommendations have been implemented since the plan was initially approved. Over the last decade, the function and use of the park have changed, the needs of user groups have evolved, and it is an appropriate time to update the current plan.

Two previous reports provide additional background and progress updates on the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan.

[CS-21-135 Kelso Beach Master Plan – Background and Proposed Approach to the Update](#) discussed the plan kickoff and methodology.

[CS-22-112 Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan Public Engagement and Next Steps](#) provided an update on the status of the plan, modified the methodology, reviewed public engagement and discussed the planned approach to stakeholder engagement.

In September 2022, Committee received an update concerning the plan's preparation, and the community survey results were presented. Following that, in September and October 2022, the Manager of Parks and Open Space held four sessions where stakeholder community and cultural organizations were invited to participate, including:

- Georgian Bay Folk Society;
- Gitche Namewikwedong
Reconciliation Garden
Committee
- Saugeen Ojibway Nation
- Metis Nation of Ontario Grey
Owen Sound
- Keystone Child and Family
Services
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Subaru Triathlon
- Beach Volleyball
- Ball Diamond Users
- Owen Sound Minor Soccer
- Sydenham Sportsmen
Association
- Transport Canada
- City of Owen Sound Staff
- Owen Sound Rugby Club;
and,
- Owen Sound Minor Lacrosse

Stakeholder organizations received a direct invitation to attend any four sessions to discuss their use and vision for their respective park uses.

38 people attended the sessions, representing nine stakeholder groups. Attendees received a background presentation on the plan process and participated in facilitated brainstorming activities, idea ranking exercises and facilitated discussion on the outcomes of the activities.

The purpose of this report is to present the draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan.

Analysis:

The Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan (attachment 1) is a hyper-local approach to property-specific planning for the City Park that will help to guide decision-makers and ensure the property continues to meet the needs of residents and visitors for the next decade.

The plan includes 30 recommendations, summarized in Appendix 15 of the plan. The recommendations are categorized into three key themes:

- Cultural Heritage and Community;
- Amenities and Services; and,
- Park Operations

Appendix 15 is included with this report as attachment 2 for ease of reference.

When this report and draft Master Plan were published, it was also sent to the stakeholders for feedback. Any feedback from stakeholders and the committee will be reflected in a final draft that will come back to Committee in December.

Financial Implications:

The 2010 Plan included 17 key recommendations to be phased over the 10 year life of the Plan. As outlined in the updated Plan, there has been much accomplished on implementing the high priority recommendations of that Plan both through direct City capital support, grant funding as well as partnerships.

There are currently \$1,005,500.00 in capital improvements contemplated for Kelso Beach at Nawash Park between 2023 and 2027.

\$180,500 outlined the following table is included as part of the approved 2023 Capital budget.

Project Description:	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Main Entrance and Fence		50,000			
Kelso Shade Sails	115,000				
Kelso Beach Playground Replacement				200,000	
Kelso Beach South Trail Lighting					300,000
Reconciliation Garden Flagpole	8,000				
Kelso Main Stage Pavilion Electrical	57,500				150,000
Kelso Beach Washroom Building Replacement		25,000 (design)	100,000		

New proposed capital costs beyond the City’s 5-year capital planning cycle identified in the Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park are estimates based on 2022 pricing. The estimates are not intended to commit the City to future costs. Each project will be contemplated through the City’s normal Capital budget planning processes and will be presented to Council as recommendations at the appropriate time in the City’s 5- year capital planning forecast.

Projects identified as being completed in-house using existing resources do not represent new costs and will be executed within the City’s approved annual operating budget in the proposed year.

The plan proposes \$830,000 - \$1,137,500 in 2022 dollars in capital costs to the City in years 6-10 of this plan.

The strategy relies on a minimum of 50% grant or partnership funding for several projects, identified on Appendix 15 (attachment 2). Total grant funding required to implement capital projects from years 6-10 in 2022 dollars is \$725,000-\$830,000 in addition to the City’s baseline contributions. Additionally, partnerships with groups and organizations will be important in leveraging City commitment to projects similar to the Splash Pad and Good

Cheer Washroom completed in partnership with the Scenic City Order of Good Cheer.

Communication Strategy:

[CS-21-135 Kelso Beach Master Plan – Background and Proposed Approach to the Update](#)

[CS-22-112 Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan Public Engagement and Next Steps](#)

[Our City](#) Public engagement platform

Three in-person Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

Draft Master Plan sent to Stakeholders on November 10 for feedback.

Final plan including any input from Committee and public will come back to Committee in December for final approval.

Consultation:

Park Staff & Director of Community Services
Development Team
Owen Sound Rugby Club
Sydenham Sportsmen
Georgian Bay Folk Society
Owen Sound Minor Soccer
Owen Sound Ladies Slo Pitch League
Trisport Promotions

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan

Attachment 2 - Appendix 15 – Summary of Recommendations from the Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan

Recommended by:

Adam Parsons, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services

Submission approved by:

Tim Simmonds, City Manager

For more information on this report, please contact Adam Parsons, Manager of Parks and Open Space, at aparsons@owensound.ca or 519-376-1440 x 1221.