

Staff Report

Report To: Community Services Committee
Report From: Adam Parsons, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Meeting Date: December 14, 2022
Report Code: CS-22-161
Subject: Kelso Beach Master Plan Update- Comments on the Draft Plan

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-22-161 respecting public and stakeholder feedback on the draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to bring forward a by-law to adopt the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, including revisions based on public and stakeholder feedback outlined in table 1 of this report.

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](#)

[CS-22-147 Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan](#)

[Recreation Parks and Facilities Master Plan](#)

[Official Plan](#)

[Strategic Plan](#)

Background:

Three 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.

[CS-22-147 Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan](#) outlined the draft plan including three key themes – Cultural Heritage and Community, Amenities and Services, and Park Operations. Under each key theme, there are several recommendations.

The draft plan was presented to Committee on November 16 and 23, 2022. At that time, Committee approved the following:

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.

Since the November meeting, stakeholders who participated in the engagement sessions received a copy of the draft plan for comment. Comments were to be received by the City by the end of day Sunday, December 4, for consideration.

The draft plan was also posted on Our City’s public engagement portal and promoted via the City’s social media channels. Local media also reported on the draft plan when the November Community Services Committee agenda was published.

In total, 17 comments were received, summarized in table 1.

Table 1.

Theme (# comments)	Recommendation	Comment Rationale	Response
Cultural Heritage and Community (none)	None	N/A	
Amenities and Services (3)	5.2.15 Upgrade Electrical Infrastructure	Concerns re: lighting design should consider habitat and dark sky initiative,	The City incorporates dark sky recommendation s into new park lighting infrastructure.

		only projecting light where needed.	Modify the recommendation to include a statement in support of dark sky-compliant lighting design
New Suggestion (1)	5.2.10 Create Regulation Beach Volleyball Courts	Comment in opposition to creating Beach Volleyball Courts	The recommendation is to develop a business case to examine the feasibility of beach volleyball courts, including a user fee market analysis. Modify the Recommendation title to clarify the intent of the recommendation
New Suggestion (1)	5.2.12 Create Park Boundary Delineation abutting the Eddie Sargent Parkway and the north park boundary	Concern over the impact of park delineation on Summerfolk	Georgian Bay Folk Society has been consulted on this item for several years and participated in stakeholder engagement. The organization has expressed no concerns.

Park Operations (1)	5.3.1 Trial an improved waste management strategy for Kelso Beach at Nawash Park	Include cigarette butt disposal options with a waste receptacle trial	Modify the recommendation to reflect that cigarette butt disposal options will be investigated as part of the trial
Park Operations (5)	5.3.5. Remove scrub trees and shrubs from the shoreline	Scrub vegetation provides a habitat for pollinators and other fauna	Modify the scope of recommendation 5.3.5 to clarify the intent of the recommendation to a limited portion of the shoreline.
New Suggestion (1)			
New Suggestion (1)		Winter maintainance on harbour Walkways leading to Kelso Beach at Nawash park	Not in scope for this plan
New Suggestion (1)		Add a disc golf course.	Little representation locally to date. Disc Golf is not identified as a priority in the Recreation Parks

			and Facilities Master Plan.
New Suggestion (1)		Create a divided trail with asphalt on one side paired with soft surfacing on the other side.	The asphalt trail creates an accessible path. Users are not restricted to using the trail for those who prefer different surfaces for walking/running/active transportation

<p>New Suggestion (1)</p>		<p>Don't Change the Park</p>	<p>Community interest and requests are received by the City regularly. A master plan is responsive to community feedback and services the goals of the Official Plan, Recreation Parks and Facilities Master Plan, recreation Trails Master Plan and the Strategic Plan.</p>
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Complete comments are included as attachment 1. With private personal information redacted including names and email addresses.

Analysis:

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.

Feedback received is to be incorporated into the final Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan as per responses outlined in table 1.

Staff recommend Community Services Committee and Council approve the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan and bring forward a bylaw to implement the recommendations detailed in the plan.

Financial Implications:

There are no new financial commitments detailed in this report. The financial impact of the draft plan was outlined in report [CS-22-147 Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan](#)

Proposed capital costs in the draft plan 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.

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](#)

[CS-22-147 Draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan](#)

[Our City](#) Public engagement platform

Three in-person Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

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

This Report

Final Plan to be included as an item for information for the January 18, 2023, Community Services Committee Agenda

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 - Complete Comments

Attachment 2 - 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.