

Staff Report

Report To: City Council
Report From: Adam Parsons, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Meeting Date: March 27, 2023
Report Code: CS-23-036
Subject: Request to Initiate the Process to Re-Name Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park

Recommendations:

THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-23-036 respecting a request to initiate the process to Re-Name Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park, City Council directs staff to initiate the process to Re-Name a City Park as prescribed by Policy No. CS087, Naming and Re-Naming for City Parks and Facilities, as detailed in the report.

Highlights:

- [Policy CS087, Naming or Re-Naming a City Park](#) or Facility, was endorsed by Council in 2022.
- [The Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan](#) recommends re-naming Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park.

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

In 2021, City Council adopted a [Strategic Plan Refresh](#) that included the objective of supporting inclusivity, diversity, and accessibility in our community and recognizing the importance of a safe and secure community under the Safe City theme.

Climate and Environmental Implications:

There are no anticipated climate or environmental impacts.

Previous Report/Authority:

[Strategic Plan](#)

[Policy CS87 Naming or Re-Naming a City Park](#)

[Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan \(2023\)](#)

Background:

Re-Naming a City Park

In December 2021, City Council approved the report [CS-21-144 Draft Naming and Re-Naming Policy for City Parks and Facilities](#);

CS-211117-004

Moved by Mayor Boddy

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-21-144 respecting a Draft Naming Policy for City Parks and Facilities, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council direct staff to bring forward a by-law to approve the policy as attached to the report."

Carried.

The following excerpt from [Policy CS87 Naming or Re-Naming a City Park](#) provides guidelines for considering Re-Naming a City Park of Facility:

13. The re-naming of City Parks and Facilities will only be considered in exceptional circumstances.
14. Re-naming will be considered only when it can be demonstrated that it is not in the City's best interest to continue to use the name.
15. It is incumbent on Council or the person or organization applying for the re-naming to provide sufficient information to consider the request.
16. City Council shall have the final decision with respect to naming

of City Parks and Facilities.

17. City Council shall follow the procedure attached to this Policy with respect to the process, public notice, consultation in advance of any decision with respect to Naming or Re-Naming.

Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan

City Council approved a new Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan in February 2023 via the minutes of the January 25, 2023, Community Services Committee:

CS-230125-006

Moved by Member Dantas

"THAT in consideration of Staff Report CS-23-010 respecting the draft Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, the Community Services Committee recommends that City Council, in consideration of the background and public and stakeholder input, approve the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan."

Carried.

The Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan included recommendation 5.1.2 Update the official name of the Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park, stating:

The City adopted the practice of referring to the subject property as Kelso Beach at Nawash Park in 2018. However, the park has never officially been renamed to the preferred nomenclature, and it is still legally registered as Kelso Beach Park.

In 2021, the City adopted [Policy CS087](#) – Naming and Re-Naming Policy for City Parks and Facilities.

A key objective of the City’s strategic plan is supporting inclusivity, diversity, and accountability in the community, and this is reflected in the policy.

Process for Re-Naming a City Park or Facility

[Policy CS87 Naming or Re-naming a City Park or Facility](#) details the process for Re-Naming a City Park or Facility:

1. A completed application form is completed and submitted to the attention of the City Clerk.

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2. Staff will review the application for completeness, ensuring that the information required to consider the request has been provided.

(A fillable form is available on the City website or available in hard copy at City Hall)

3. a) **Council receives a request on the form provided from an individual or organization to re-name a City Park or Facility.**

b) Council requests by resolution that staff initiate or not initiate the process to re-name a City Park or Facility.

c) Council itself requests by resolution that staff initiate the re-naming process.

Analysis:

Acting on recommendation 5.1.2 of the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, City staff prepared and submitted an application for re-naming Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park (Attachment 1).

The application has been received by the City Clerk (attachment 2). Staff have reviewed the application for completeness, ensuring that the information required to consider the request has been provided. A letter confirming this has been provided.

The purpose of this report is to complete step 3 b) of the policy:

1. b) Council requests by resolution that staff initiate or not initiate the process to re-name a City Park or Facility.

Next Steps

Council, following the direction of the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan and Policy CS87 Naming or Re-Naming a City Park or Facility, are requested to by resolution initiate the process to re-name Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park. City staff will act on step 4 for re-naming a City Park or Facility detailed by Policy CS87 by preparing a report for Community Services Committee.

Table 1 proposes the steps and timeline for the completion of the re-naming.

Table 1

CS87 Renaming a Park of Facility Step	Anticipated Completion
Staff Report to Community Services	April 19 Community Services Committee This will establish a working group to provide a recommendation to CSC
Consideration of April 19 Community Services Committee minutes by Council	May 8 Council
Working Group Report Recommending or not Recommending re-naming Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park to CSC	May 17 Community Services Committee
Consideration of May 17 Community Services Committee by Council	May 29 Council
Bylaw to re-Name Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park	June 12 Council

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications with this report.

Council has budgeted funds to support interpretive plaques in the area of the Reconciliation Garden. The City makes the green park identification signs internally and the cost to update the sign will be covered in the Parks Operations budget and completed by staff.

Communication Strategy:

Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan, which included public consultation on the matter.

This report is available on the City’s website through the agenda.

Consultation:

Public Consultation and engagement occurred for this item as a part of the Kelso Beach at Nawash Park Master Plan process in 2022.

Attachments:

1. Application to Re-Name Kelso Beach Park to Kelso Beach at Nawash Park
2. Letter from the City Clerk

Recommended by:

Adam Parsons, Manager of Parks and Open Space

Pamela 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 519-376-4440 ext. 1221.