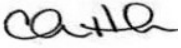




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	May 5, 2025
SUBJECT:	Update #4 – Order to Comply – Fire Damage for Woodlands Park Washroom Located at 501 Barton St E (CFEM2503) (Ward 3)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 3
SUBMITTED BY:	Chris Herstek Acting Director, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

Background:

A fire damaged the washroom structure at Woodlands Park, 501 Barton Street East, Ward 3, on January 2nd, 2024. The fire was extinguished, and security was provided to prevent public access to the facility. An associated order to comply was issued by the City of Hamilton's Building Division on the same day for a structural assessment to be completed and either a demolition or building permit to be issued to repair the building and make it safe for use.

The washroom building at Woodlands Park is approximately 50 years old and a one-storey building structure without a basement. Before the fire event, the building superstructure consisted of roof wood sheathing on pre-engineered roof wood trusses and joists supported by steel beams, columns, and concrete block masonry walls.

Other existing park amenities include pathways, soccer field, multi-use court and playground. A new spray pad amenity was constructed northwest of the washroom facility in the summer of 2024.

A security team was on site 24/7 to maintain the safety, security and integrity of the facility while the roof was demolished, and the site was assessed. Current security measures include a mobile security team conducting 2 inspections of the property every 24 hours to ensure that the fencing remains intact and that access to the building

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OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

remains secure. Signage has been applied to the existing fencing providing the 24-hour security dispatch number should any resident wish to report suspicious activity related to the property.

A community placemaking project had installed artwork called, “Woodlands Park: Ghost Landscape”, at two locations of Woodlands Park, one of which was affixed to the side of the washroom facility. In order to avoid damage to the artwork, it has been removed from the washroom facility and is being stored at a City site while the washroom is being worked on. Coordination with the artist is underway.

Completed Milestones (January 2024 to date):

- Preliminary structural assessment completed by a structural engineer.
- Demolition and removal of debris.
- Fulsome structural assessment completed by a structural engineer.
- Public consultation.
- Coordination with the City facility insurance adjustor.

Operational Update:

A general contractor was hired through the insurance adjustor. The building permit was received on April 4th, 2025, to proceed with the restoration of the Woodlands Park washroom. Contractors began mobilizing on site on Monday April 28th to set up fencing for a laydown area and prepare the site for future works. The roof trusses will be delivered the week of May 5, 2025 and construction is expected to be completed in approximately two and a half months.

During construction there will be no impact to the utilization of the rest of the park amenities include pathways, soccer field, multi-use court, playground and splash pad. Corporate Facilities and Parks will continue to coordinate any portable washroom needs during the construction.

If you have any questions respecting this communication update, please contact Amanda Pavao, Acting Manager of Strategic Planning & Capital Compliance at Amanda.Pavao@hamilton.ca or Extension 7325.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A