VICTORIA PARK IMPROVEMENTS

VIRTUAL CONSULTATION MEETING

FEBRUARY 18, 2021
TONIGHT’S FORMAT

• WELCOME
• LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
• OVERVIEW ON HOW TO INTERACT THROUGH ZOOM
• STAFF PRESENTATION
• Q & A / DISCUSSION
The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.
PRESENTATION AGENDA

• INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND
  • What We’re Doing / Why We’re Doing This
  • Victoria Park Context
• OVERVIEW OF FUTURE PARK IMPROVEMENTS
  • Spray Pad Replacement / New Sun Shelter
  • Play Structure Accessibility Enhancements
  • Pool and Pool House Renewal
• HOW TO GET INVOLVED / STAY INFORMED
• Q & A / DISCUSSION
WHAT ARE WE DOING?

• Providing information about upcoming improvements to various park amenities.

• Initiating a dialogue between City staff and the community.
WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- There is an inherent value in public space
- Investments are *needed now, more than ever*
We are continuing the legacy of the Victoria Park Master Plan implementation: a *multi-year park renewal plan*;
WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

- Some amenities are at the end of their life cycle and require replacement.
- Some amenities could use enhancement.
CONTEXT / BACKGROUND
SITE CONTEXT: NEIGHBOURHOOD

- 5.7 hectare Community Park.
- Serves residents of the Strathcona neighbourhood, Ward 1, and beyond.
- A highly-programmed park (ie. many park amenities).
SITE CONTEXT: PARK AMENITIES

Area of Focus:
• Pool and Pool House
• Play Structures and Swings
• Spray Pad

• Tennis Courts
• Community Garden
• Fitness Equipment
• Parking Lot
• Open Lawn
• Multi-Use Courts
• SoBi Bike Station
• Park Facility Building
• Baseball Field
• Perimeter Pathway Loop
A STORIED HISTORY:

- Indigenous and colonial trading site.
- Once the site of military staging.
- Site of the former *Crystal Palace* structure: an agricultural exhibition hall.
- Became a municipal park in 1900.

*The Crystal Palace, as it looked in the nineteenth century. Source: Hamilton Spectator file photo*
DIGGING UP THE PAST

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION IN 2020:

• Test pit digging at the north end of the site, to document / uncover culturally-significant elements.

• The investigation is meant to inform:
  1. The design and location of new amenities
  2. Mitigation measures and methods to construction
THE NEED FOR PARK AMENITY UPGRADES:

- Amenities:
  - Are at the *end of their life cycle* and require replacement; or
  - Could use *accessibility enhancements*. 
PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Play Structure
Accessibility Enhancements

Pool and Pool House Renewal

Spray Pad Replacement and New Sun Shelter

Tennis Courts
SPRAY PAD REPLACEMENT AND NEW SUN SHELTER

- Spray Pad Replacement
- New Sun Shelter

Pool
- Playground
- Tennis Courts
EXISTING CONDITIONS

- Aging spray features
- Pedestrian / cyclist circulation issues
CONSIDERATIONS:

- Locate both features in proximity to the existing spray pad
- Consider “natural” gathering focal point
- Consider pedestrian and cyclist circulation
- Preserve existing large mature trees
PRECEDEDENT AND INSPIRATION

DESIGN INSPIRATION:

SPRAY PAD
• Different types of water play

SUN SHELTER
• Reflect / celebrate historical character of former structures
WE ARE HERE (FEBRUARY 2021)

WINTER / SPRING 2021
- Studies / Investigations (archaeology)
- Community Engagement (user survey for spray pad features)

SUMMER / FALL 2021
- Site Planning
- Detailed Design

SPRING 2022
- Anticipated Construction
PLAYGROUND MODIFICATIONS

Play Structure
Accessibility Enhancements

Pool
Spray Pad
Tennis Courts
PLAYGROUND MODIFICATIONS

- The existing playground at this park had a life-cycle replacement in 2016, with an additional rope climber added in a new play area in 2018.

- As part of a Ward 1 Councillor initiative, staff are investigating additional play structure elements that enhance accessibility and play opportunities at the existing play structure location.

- These new elements may be included as additions to the existing play structure and/or stand alone play features within the play area ‘footprint’.
WE ARE HERE (FEBRUARY 2021)

WINTER 2021
• Research / investigation into play elements that enhance accessibility and can be added to an existing structure and/or within the same playground ‘footprint’.

SPRING 2021
• Community engagement (user survey for accessibility features).

SUMMER 2021
• Based on survey results, proposed budget will be brought to the Councillor for area rating funding approval.
POOL AND POOL HOUSE RENEWAL

Pool and Pool House Renewal

Tennis Courts
Spray Pad
Playground

FLORENCE ST
EXISTING CONDITIONS
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS

• High level, preliminary assessment / investigations currently underway:
  • Recreation user needs review;
  • Accessibility review

• Examine the existing facilities life cycle:
  • Maintain for community use;
  • Extend service delivery at site with minor investments:
    • Repair / replacement work (mechanical systems)

• Consider further investigative work:
  • Archaeological investigation
HOW TO GET INVOLVED / STAY INFORMED
OUTREACH

ASK QUESTIONS
- Virtual Public Meeting TONIGHT!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK
- Online User Survey

STAY INFORMED
- Website Updates

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Hamilton

ENGLISH SERVICES
CONTACTS / WHO’S LISTENING

**Play Structure**
Andrea McDonald
Andrea.McDonald@hamilton.ca

**Accessibility Enhancements**
Lu-Ann Duxbury
Lu-Ann.duxbury@hamilton.ca

**Pool and Pool House Renewal**
John Vandriel
Johnathan.Vandriel@hamilton.ca

**Spray Pad Replacement and New Sun Shelter**
THANK YOU
DISCUSSION / Q & A

www.hamilton.ca/VictoriaParkImprovements
STAY UP-TO-DATE:

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