

NO: R053

COUNCIL DATE: April 17, 2023

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **April 13, 2023**

FROM: **General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture**

FILE: **6120-01**

SUBJECT: **Bear Creek Park Improvements**

RECOMMENDATION

The Engineering and Parks, Recreation & Culture Departments recommend that Council:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Endorse the next steps for improvements to Bear Creek Park, as discussed in this report; and
3. Forward a copy of this report to the Environment and Climate Change Committee for their information.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's endorsement for next steps of improvements to Bear Creek Park, including working with the Environment and Climate Change Committee ("ECCC") on identifying and prioritizing park improvements within the allocated funding.

BACKGROUND

On March 8, 2021, Council authorized staff to commence with engineering services for the field investigation, preliminary design and public engagement of 84 Avenue between King George Boulevard and 140 Street. As part of the project, the Engineering and Parks, Recreation & Culture Departments collaborated on potential park amenity improvements that could be delivered in conjunction with the 84 Avenue project. Park improvements envisioned by staff include:

- i. Environmental wetland;
- ii. Invasive species removal and replanting;
- iii. Parking expansion;
- iv. Walking trails and public seating
- v. Dog off-leash areas; and
- vi. Public art.

These originally envisioned park improvements are shown in the attached Appendix "I".

To date, as part of the 84 Avenue project, the City has invested \$2.7 million in environmental and park improvements, including parking, walking trails landfill remediation, and removal of invasive plants in riparian areas. The City has an estimated \$836,000 in remaining budget towards further park improvements, with approximately \$250,000 of this budget allocated towards extending the southern walking trail to the Senior Living Centre at 8233 – 140 Street. Staff are developing a finalized list of potential park improvements for the remaining funding.

With the establishment of the ECCC in January 2023, as well as the receipt of ongoing feedback from the public, there is an opportunity for staff to utilize the ECCC to assist in developing the finalized list of potential improvements to Bear Creek Park, within the remaining funding.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, staff will develop a finalized list of park improvements, in conjunction with the ECCC, and implement the improvements to Bear Creek Park in Summer 2023.

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General Manager,
Engineering

Laurie Cavan
General Manager,
Parks, Recreation & Culture

JC/cc

Appendix “I” – Map of Proposed Bear Creek Park Improvements

84 Avenue: King George Boulevard to 140 Street

