



**Subject: H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park – Parkette Concept Plan**

**To: Council**

**From: Chief Administrative Office**

Report Number: 2021-257

Meeting Date: October 12, 2021

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**Recommendation:**

That Chief Administrative Office Report 2021-257 be received; and

That Council approve the new concept plan for the Parkette at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park attached as Appendix A to Chief Administrative Office Report 2021-257.

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**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the community's preferences and comments on the four proposed concept plans for the Parkette at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park, to present a new concept plan for approval, and to receive Council's direction to ensure project completion by the spring/summer of 2022 to coincide with celebrations for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

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**Background:**

At the July 26, 2021 meeting, Council provided comments on Report 2021-194 and directed staff to survey local residents to obtain their preferences on the four proposed concept plans for the Parkette at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park. City staff issued a media release on August 5, 2021 and initiated a social media campaign to encourage local residents to participate in the online survey. The survey was available from August 5<sup>th</sup> to August 20<sup>th</sup> and generated a favourable response, with 658 residents voting on their preferred concept plan and 260 providing additional comments.

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**Discussion:**

Staff engaged The MBTW Group, who have been involved in this project since the fall of 2020, to review comments and preferences on the four proposed concept plans and then create a new concept plan that incorporates feedback from both the community and Council. The key themes and objectives expressed include the following:

- create a more attractive entry sequence to the marina that suits the waterfront setting;
- create a plan that supports a concession program with food truck access and a shaded seating area;
- integrate the adjacent basin/pond area, concrete seawall and docks into the design;
- create a simple yet functional design that maximizes flexible use of the site;
- integrate potential partnership opportunities with other organizations (i.e., pollinator gardens with the local Conservation Authority); and
- take into account the environmental hazards of high winds, high water levels, flooding, and wave overtopping.

The MBTW Group has prepared a summary report that includes the four proposed concept plans and their respective cost estimates, as well as a new concept plan for Council to approve. This summary report is attached as Appendix A.

The estimated cost of the new concept plan is \$73,650 plus a 10 percent contingency of \$7,365.00 for a total project cost of \$81,015. As per Report 2021-194, the City Project Team recommends that a new concrete pad be poured to replace the existing pad, which is old, unlevel, and deteriorating in some areas. In addition, before new landscape amenities and various structures are permanently fixed to the concrete pad, it would be beneficial to have a new concrete pad in place that will last for several years.

Engineering/Public Works have recommended that a new concrete pad be tied into the existing sidewalk in front of the pond area. The estimated cost of this concrete work is \$45,000 to \$50,000.

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**Internal Consultations:**

The four proposed concept plans and the new concept plan included with this staff report have been reviewed by a City Project Team comprised of key staff from Parks, Engineering/Public Works, and Economic Development and Tourism Services.

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## **Financial Implications:**

The project is approved at \$150,000. This includes the estimated project of \$81,015 to execute the new concept plan plus \$50,000 for a new concrete pad, leaving \$18,985 as a contingency for any unexpected costs.

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## **Public Engagement:**

An online survey was created that asked local residents to review the four proposed concept plans, select their preferred concept plan, and provide comments. This survey was announced on August 5<sup>th</sup> through a City media release and promoted on the City's social media channels.

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## **Strategic Plan Alignment:**

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillar(s) of the strategic plan:

- Attracting Business Investment and Tourists to Port Colborne
  - City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
  - Governance: Communications, Engagement, and Decision-Making
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## **Conclusion:**

A new concept plan for the Parkette at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park was created that incorporates the community's preferences and comments from an online survey conducted in late August as well as comments made by Council. Staff are seeking additional comments from Council and approval to proceed with the next steps of this project to ensure it will be completed by the spring/summer of 2022, which will coincide with celebrations for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

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## **Appendices:**

- a. Report from The MBTW Group, including new concept plan

Respectfully submitted,

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### **Report Approval:**

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.