

COMMUNICATION 135192

Received From: Joanne Henderson, Manager of Recreation and Culture
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole
Date: November 26, 2024
Topic: Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan Update

SUMMARY

At the April 4, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council received the completed Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan. Staff have completed a report to provide an update on the work that has been completed to date on the short-term priority recommendations (1-3 years) identified in the Plan.

BACKGROUND

There were 46 short-term priority recommendations. Staff have completed an update on the status of these recommendations. Many of the short-term priorities are already in progress and the consultant's recommendation was to continue working on the various initiatives. These priorities will remain in an in-progress status as the recommendation was simply to continue with the initiatives that we were already working on.

DISCUSSION

The following will be completed in 2025 based on the recommendations:

1. Formal Parks Classification System
2. Formal Trails and Pathways Classification System that includes smaller unofficial trails and paths.
3. Mapping of trails in Sonnenburg Woods.
4. Staff will collaborate with the Youth Centre on two (2) events for 2025.
5. Five (5) movies in parks, two (2) outdoor concerts and three (3) park parties will be offered free of charge by the Town.
6. The Town will expand its offering of guided walking tours and materials in partnership with the Museum and Downtown Carleton Place BIA.
7. Feedback will be obtained from residents to determine what additional free or low-cost programming is desired.
8. The Town will present four (4) indoor concerts at the Town Hall Auditorium, as well as host Festival of Small Halls for two (2) shows. Additionally, the Town will also host 2-3 indoor movies at the Town Hall Auditorium and a 10-week seminar series at the Station Active Living Centre for Seniors which was funded by a Provincial Grant.
9. Work will continue on the online booking portal.
10. The Recreation Department will be added to the CityWide Maintenance Management System to track work orders for the Department.
11. Developing a user fee framework.

The following recommendations will require further direction from Council:

1. Consolidation of parkland parcels.
2. Updating and consolidating the existing recreation layers on the GIS system.
3. Further amendments to the Official Plan to require development alignment with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.
4. Additional lighting at the old skatepark

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Any financial implications associated with the short-term priority items will be absorbed within the 2025 budget or will be added for consideration in the 2026 budget.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive as information the Manager of Recreation and Culture's report dated November 26, 2024, providing a progress update on the Parks, Recreation and Culture Master Plan.