



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** Members of the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

**From:** Cassandra Babcock, Supervisor Parks, Forestry & Sanitation

**Meeting Date:** February 16, 2021

**subject:** Report APRAC21-005  
Public Works Annual Update

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## **Purpose**

An information report by the Parks, Forestry and Sanitation Supervisor, providing an overview of the Public Works Division activities and operations to the members of the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

## **Recommendation**

That the Arenas, Parks, and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report APRAC21-005, dated February 16, 2021, of the Parks, Forestry and Sanitation Supervisor, as follows:

That the Arenas Park and Recreation Advisory Committee receive the report for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no budget or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

## **Background**

In March 2020 as a result of the pandemic, a number of activities were halted and/or delayed, including spring tree planting, horticulture services, onboarding of seasonal staff and procurement delays associated with supply chain.

**Successes:**

The Parks Division was able to secure two permanent year-round parks operators from the existing FTE allocations in the Public Works Division, and as a result the parks program can now implement new practices for 2021.

In 2020, Public Works:

- Procured the new Fred Anderson stage cover fabricated by Lester Awnings.
- Installed three new digital scoreboards. (Trent {2} and Riverside).
- Installed new fencing at Bowers Park, Milroy Park, Riverside and Rube Brady.
- Restored the Armour Hill Look Out.
- Repaired the Jackson Park Pagoda dam.
- Replaced and advanced vehicle and equipment acquisitions to address an aging fleet.
- OnBoarded the Rotary Club Shade Shelter at Hazlitt.
- Completed projects the skateboard park surface repairs, replacement of bleachers, conversion of Bonnerworth tennis courts to include two dual-sport courts, implementation of four new neighbourhood rinks, etc.
- Implemented all new service routes for the park's sanitation (garbage and recycling routes) to expand service by 15%, winter control of trails and parks parking lots.
- Re-designed the parks, trails and boulevard turf maintenance program with new grass routes to be implemented in May 2021.
- The installation and dedication of the East City Bowl flagpole in recognition of Wimpy Borland. (Gary Baldwin/Kim Zippel)
- General maintenance highlights include 27 accessibility improvements including the walkway at Bowers & Kiwanis, replacement of water access ramp at Beavermead, 8 more accessible parking spots, 7 new benches, switching out sand to ewf in 10 playgrounds.
- Developed parks best practices for trails and splashpads in accordance with current legislation and industry best practices.
- Parks & Forestry planted 500 trees, 47 within parks, the rest within the city right of way.

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- Implemented a new work order system to capture capital and operating costs within all properties serviced by Public Works.

**Statistics:**

- 114 parks, 61 playgrounds, 18 rectangular fields, 35 ball diamonds, 26 basketball courts, 15 hard courts, 6 volleyball courts.
- 131 camping evictions within parks
- 33 camping evictions along trails
- 700 + sharps collections
- 67 emergency responses to washroom facilities for public/employee risk situations, plugged sewers, damaged facilities and private vehicles trespassing on sports fields.
- 7 trespass notices.

**Goals for 2021:**

- Create a registry of all agreements with various organizations.
- Develop a memorial bench and tree application process.
- Revise the neighbourhood rink process (with Rob McAulay).
- Develop a best practice for our inspection and maintenance program and create a reporting structure to allocate and report on costs and resources.
- Implement a priority response for all parks, forestry & sanitation service requests.
- Implement a new process for fences, retaining walls, neighbouring amenities, create a full inventory of trails furniture (including signs, lights, memorial benches, etc.).
- Implement new grass cutting program.
- Legacy Bowl upgrades.
- Repair a significant portion of the irrigation systems, ideally to include remote monitoring and identify conservation strategies for 2021.

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## Summary

With the securement of two parks operators, the advancement of technologies, processes and equipment, the Public Works Division has been able to develop and implement some industry standard best practices for our parks, trails and open spaces in concert with the city's sanitation and forestry programs.

Submitted by,

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