



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the General Committee

From: Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services

Meeting Date: May 10, 2021

Subject: Report CSRS21-001
Potential Sites for Water Filling Stations

Purpose

In response to Council's direction, this report provides information on City-owned facilities that are suitable to accommodate water filling stations and recommendations to construct two to three stations in 2021.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSRS21-001, dated May 10, 2021, of the Commissioner of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That water filling stations be installed in 2021 at Millennium Park Washroom, the Transit Terminal and if funds permit at the Del Cray Park Washroom;
- b) That a new 2021 capital project be approved in the amount of \$25,000 to support the provision of water filling stations at the three priority locations identified in Recommendation (a) to be funded in 2021 through:
 - I. A transfer of \$15,000 from the approved 2021 Capital Budget 5-7.01 Sustainability Project; and
 - II. A \$10,000 contribution from Peterborough Utilities Commission.

Budget and Financial Implications

Staff has identified 12 potential locations to provide additional water filling stations across the City, at an estimated maximum per unit cost of \$10,000 (including HST) for supply and installation.

If recommendation (b) of this report is approved, the expense can be accommodated through a combination of \$15,000 from the City's approved 2021 Capital Budget 5-7.01 Sustainability Project and a \$10,000 contribution from Peterborough Utilities Commission (PUC). PUC has committed to consider additional funding in the future.

Staff will consider funding for the remainder of the stations as part of future capital budgets.

Background

In 2010, Council directed that the sale and serving of bottled water be banned in City facilities, except for sites where vending contracts were in place. As the contracts expired, the sale of bottled water was to cease. In 2016, all vending contracts had expired. Water filling stations were installed at the facilities where bottled water had previously been sold, with financial assistance from the Province through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge. Water filling stations currently exist at the following municipal facilities:

1. Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre (3 units)
2. Evinrude Centre (1 unit)
3. Kinsmen Arena (1 unit)
4. Peterborough Memorial Centre (3 units)
5. Marina (1 unit)
6. Eastgate Park (1 unit)
7. Beavermead Park (1 unit)

On July 27, 2020, Council approved the following motion:

That staff be directed to bring a report that identifies city locations/ facilities, both indoor and outdoor, that could accommodate a water refilling station, and the costs of installing water refilling stations at said locations.

All City divisions were surveyed, with the following 12 sites identified as potential locations for water filling stations (listed alphabetically):

1. Bowers Park
2. Del Crary Park Washroom

3. King Edward Park Washroom
4. Kinsmen Park Splash Pad
5. Library Commons
6. Millennium Park Washroom
7. Milroy Park
8. Nicholls Oval Park Splash Pad
9. Nicholls Oval Park Washroom
10. One Roof Drop-in Centre (non-City owned)
11. Rogers Cove Park Washroom
12. Transit Terminal

The Urban Park on Louis St was also identified as a priority location for a water filling station. Provision of a water filling station at the Urban Park is being included as part of that capital construction project.

Now that 210 Wolfe Street is operating as the overflow shelter, City staff and Brock Mission are evaluating whether a publicly accessible water refill station is appropriate in this location. If so, funding may be available through the Social Services Relief Fund which funded the project to convert 210 Wolfe Street to an overflow shelter.

Priority Sites for 2021

Council's intent was for sites in or near the downtown core to be considered a priority. For 2021, Staff are recommending that water filling stations be provided at Millennium Park Washroom, the Transit Terminal and if funds permit at the Del Cray Park Washroom.

Funding Partnerships

There was no capital project included in the 2020 or 2021 budgets specific to the provision of water filling stations. There is \$15,000 uncommitted within the approved 2021 Capital Budget 5-7.01 Sustainability Project, which Staff has determined can be re-allocated to support this initiative.

City staff met with staff at both PUC and Peterborough Green Up to consider funding opportunities either through their organization budgets or through other known grants. PUC has committed a \$10,000 contribution for 2021, with a further pledge to consider additional funding in the future. Green Up has committed to partner with the City by applying for future grant opportunities that may become available in support of initiatives of this nature. Green Up has also offered to lead any educational and promotional opportunities related to the provision of drinking water for public consumption. This will include adding all new water filling stations to the [Blue Water Peterborough website](#), an online map created by Peterborough Green Up and Peterborough Utilities Group, listing

local businesses that are happy to refill water bottles for residents without the expectation that they will buy anything. The online map also includes the type of refill environment, such as a refill station or staff-supported refill.

Timeline

If the recommendations in this report are approved, City staff expect the installation of the water filling stations at Millennium Park Washroom, the Transit Terminal and if funds permit at the Del Crary Park Washroom to occur by the end of summer 2021.

Summary

Council directed Staff to identify City facilities, both indoor and outdoor, that could accommodate a water filling station, and the cost of installing water filling stations at said locations. Staff is proposing 12 locations/facilities for Council's consideration with three priority sites recommended for 2021. A funding partnership has been established with the PUC for 2021 with potential for additional funding in future years.

Submitted by,

Sheldon Laidman
Commissioner of Community Services

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