



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**From:** **Mary Gallop, Manager of Facilities and Special Projects**

**Meeting Date:** **June 3, 2015**

**Subject:** **AAC15-026**  
**Update on Two New Recreation Projects**

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## **Purpose**

A report to follow up on a presentation made to the Accessibility Advisory Committee at the April meeting for the Trent Field Project and the West End Splash Pad.

## **Recommendation**

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in AAC15-026 dated June 3, 2015, of the Manager of Facilities and Special Projects, as follows:

That Report AAC15-026 be received for information.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There are no budgetary or financial implications in approving the staff recommendation as the changes can be included in the approved capital budget for the project.

## **Background**

A presentation to the Accessibility Advisory Committee was made on April 1, 2015 on two recreation infrastructure projects that will be under construction in 2015. A summary of the projects follows.

### **Trent Sport Field Project**

The Trent Sport Field project is a cooperative project of the City, Trent University, the Peterborough Baseball Association (PBA) and Peterborough Recreational Baseball Association (PRBA) to construct a new baseball diamond and rectangular sport field on property provided by Trent University.

City Council approved funds to move forward with the project and the draft design was presented to the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) on April 1, 2015. The committee provided feedback on three areas and the following adjustments were made to the design that included:

1. A pedestrian trail is included in design and it will link the Gzowski College parking lot to the rectangular (soccer/rugby/field lacrosse) field and to the baseball diamond. It will accommodate both players and spectators.
2. A new parking lot with 45 spaces will be constructed next to the baseball diamond. Two accessible parking stalls are included in the plan. The accessible parking stalls will have a direct link to the pedestrian trail.
3. Four (4) new rest stops will be added along the trail between the parking lots that will provide locations for spectators to stop and rest, and/or watch the game.

The Trent Sport Field Project is currently being tendered and it will be under construction in July. If weather conditions are ideal for construction, the fields should be completed by November and play on the fields ready for June 1, 2016.

### **West End Splash Pad Project**

The West End Splash Pad Project is being funded by the City of Peterborough with support funding from the Tollington Park Trust. The splash pad was recommended to provide “wet” playground activities for children in the west end. Currently, other sections of the City are well served with wading pools or splash pads, however no similar facilities exist in the City’s west end.

Following public consultation, a recommendation was made to include both a dry playground and a splash pad at the Kinsmen Arena site. The dry playground was an additional feature that was not originally considered but was strongly recommended by the area residents due to lack of available facilities in that immediate area.

Discussion on April 1, 2015 on the design at the AAC raised the following points:

1. Would there be dedicated accessible parking? The plan showed two accessible parking stalls immediately at the site. This has been refined to include one accessible van parking stall and one accessible car parking stall.

Other parking can be secured in the existing parking lot of the arena. Staff believes that at least 50% (or more) of the visitors to this site will be by pedestrians.

2. Only one picnic table is included in the plan – can this be increased? Only one is included and staff will monitor the need for additional facilities such as additional picnic tables after the first year of operation.
3. The dry playground has little to offer children with a disability. Can this change? The dry playground was an “add on” feature and is modest in size. After the first year of use, staff can review this feature to determine if an expansion program should take place at this site. Should expansion be required, a request for funding may come back to the AAC in 2016.
4. The wood fibre safety surface in the dry playground – is it accessible? Yes it is but it may not have the highest level of accessibility that a rubber surface would have. The wood fibres do compact with use. If mobility is a challenge, or if there is a request to change out the wood fibre surface to a rubberized safety surface, Staff would review this request and consult with the AAC at a later date.

## Summary

The two new projects, the Trent Sport Fields and the West End Splash Pad, will add new recreational opportunities for our citizens. The AAC's input has insured that accessibility is considered into new recreational infrastructure for all residents to enjoy.

Submitted by,

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