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Town of Aurora
Memorandum
Operational Services

Re: 2025 Park Project Updates
To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
From: Matthew Volpintesta, Manager of Parks and Fleet
Date: March 20, 2025

Recommendation

1. That the memorandum regarding 2025 Park Project Updates be received; and
2. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee comments regarding 2025 Park Project Updates be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Background

The memo provides a brief update on major capital projects in 2025, including both new capital projects and continuation of projects from previous capital budgets. These include, but are not limited to, playground improvements, major park upgrades, new parks and sports fields.

Analysis

Town Park Splash Pad

As part of the 2024 planned improvements to Town Park, the splashpad will see the replacement of in-ground sprinklers completed as well as repairs made to the rubber surfacing and will include replacement a new centrepiece bucket style water feature. This work is currently being tendered and anticipated to be completed before the operational season begins.

Evans Park

As part of the 2024 capital budget, designs for a new playground were completed in 2024, and are now being tendered out for contract. It is expected this work will begin early spring and be completed by end of June.

Summit Park

Summit Park improvement works are continuing in 2025. Last year, a new playground and fitness facility were installed. This year, refurbishments to the park pathway system and multi-use court will be completed to provide better accessibility. The tennis facility will also see upgrades to LED lighting as part of the five-year LED improvement plan. This work is expected to begin late March and completed later this year.

Tom's Park

Tom's Park will see a replacement of the play structure, and re-pavement of the park pathway system. This work is queued and expected to be completed later this year.

Fleury Park

Fleury Park renovations are currently in the design and development phase, with public consultation wrapping up in March. During a public open house and through online engagement, excellent feedback was received including over 100 survey responses. Staff are currently consolidating feedback, in collaboration with our consultant, to prepare facility fit concepts. Construction is tentatively planned to begin late 2025 into 2026.

Thelma Fielding Park

The newly adopted Thelma Fielding Park will officially open in spring 2025, featuring a new playground, public amenity space and new turf field in partnership with St. Anne's School. An opening celebration is currently being planned for late spring.

Sheppard's Bush Artificial Turf

The new artificial turf field at Sheppard's Bush is currently under construction and planned to be completed by June of this year. The field is part of a continued partnership with the Aurora Barbarians Rugby Club, and will feature lining for rugby, and soccer.

Tennis Court Improvements

Tennis court improvements are scheduled to be completed this spring at Trent and Edward Coltham Parks. This includes upgrades to the court surfacing, new drainage features, new posts, and netting. Additionally, as part of 2025 capital improvements, David English, Norm Weller, and Thomas Coates' Parks will see similar upgrades later this year.

McMahon Park Bowling Green Improvements

The bowling green at McMahon Park will undergo improvements to the curbing and bumper systems in 2025, including an upgrade to LED lighting to improve sight and accessibility for playing. This work is planned to be completed before play season begins; however, it is possible the lighting upgrades may be delayed until later into the season.

Trails

Trail development continues in 2025, with more complex projects brought forward from last year's capital budget. These include Butternut Ridge, Mattamy Development phases 4 and 5, Degraaf Crescent, the development northwest of St. John's Sideroad and Yonge Street, Benjamin Pearson Parkette boardwalk, and the David Tomlinson Nature Reserve. Design is currently underway for all projects, with construction planned through 2025 into 2026.

LED Light Upgrades

As part of a five-year plan to upgrade recreational facility lighting, the Town's LED upgrade report highlights priority targets for replacement. This year, the Town will focus on Summit Park tennis facilities, and the bowling green at McMahon Park. This work will aim to be completed before the play season begins pending contract awarding.

Lambert Willson Volleyball Court Expansion

The expansion of the volleyball courts at Lambert Willson Park are in the early stages of re-design. The expansion will feature two additional courts, with a small amenity space including seating for players and spectators, as well as professional quality play sand and new netting systems. It is expected the overall footprint will be marginally expanded, with construction to commence in 2026 pending budget approval.

Attachments

None.