

# Advisory Committee of Council Staff Report



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To Accessibility Advisory Committee  
Date Tuesday, August 20, 2024  
Subject **Introduction: Orin Reid Park Development Project**

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## Recommendation

1. That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) receive the Staff Report titled 'Introduction: Orin Reid Park Development Project'.
  2. a) That the AAC support the proposed design goals and objectives to inform the Orin Reid Park Development Project;  
b) and recommend the following be included for consideration:
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## Executive Summary

### Purpose of Report

To provide an introduction of the proposed project goals and objectives and to outline key aspects to inform the design for new splash pad, washroom building, shade and seating areas, trails, parking areas, and cricket pitch within Orin Reid Park as they relate to accessibility and inclusivity.

### Key Findings

There is a strong desire in our community to include a higher number and range of inclusive and barrier free play elements when designing and implementing new play spaces within parks.

The design for the new amenities at Orin Reid Park will be barrier free and inclusive, making it a universal play space destination.

### Strategic Plan Alignment

Staff are pleased to begin the process for completing the final development phase by implementing a new splash pad and washroom building at Orin Reid Park that will truly build on Guelph's community vision. Staff are confident the design will be reflective of the shared aspirations of our community as well as our commitment to a shared future for Guelph. We will ensure the project incorporates our vision, mission, and values, and touches on all four strategic priorities to champion improved community well-being in our Parks and City.

### Financial Implications

#### Capital Funding

Financial implications for proceeding with the implementation of this project in 2026 are currently pending approval by Council. Funding to implement this work has

been identified in the current multi-year budget. Funds to complete this work have previously been approved by Council.

### **Operating Funding**

Administrative and operating costs for the ongoing maintenance of a new splash pad, washroom building, and shade structure at Orin Reid Park have been estimated per year. Future impacts to maintenance will be provided as part of future budget approval.

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## **Report**

The design goals and objectives for Orin Reid Park will include:

- Wheelchair access to all new proposed amenities
- Abundance of shade incorporated in and around the splash pad play area and other amenities
- Four season heated accessible washroom building with gender-neutral washrooms including universal unit(s) all compliant with FADM (Facility Accessibility Design Manual)
- Washroom building that includes drinking water fountain/bottle filling station
- Splash pad with various spray and water features suitable for children of all ages and abilities
- Design that incorporates routes for caregivers to assist users in the splash pad without having to get wet
- Splash pad with surfacing and spray/water features compliant with required colour contrast
- Multiple areas for seating with both filtered and full shade options including sunshade structure(s) with accessible picnic tables and furnishings
- Accessible signage and wayfinding
- Accessible route by way of asphalt pathway connecting new accessible parking (within existing parking lot) to all new park amenities
- Improvements to existing cricket pitch, playing surface, and associated seating area(s)
- Splash pad will include a high-efficiency re-circulation water system that automatically monitors water quality thus requiring fewer chemicals to treat the water
- Renewable energy will be utilized in the design of the splash pad and washroom building

### **Financial Implications**

#### **Capital Funding**

The new splash pad, washroom building, shade pavilion, and upgrades to the existing cricket pitch is part of the scope of work to design and construct the last remaining phase of the Orin Reid Park master plan as approved by Council funded through the Orin Reid Park New Amenity Construction Account PK0057.

#### **Operating Funding**

Like all splash pads and washroom facilities throughout City Parks, these new amenities at Orin Reid Park will be inspected routinely on a regular basis, and daily during the operating season by Parks Operations Staff to ensure compliance with regulatory health and safety requirements and standards. There is no impact to

operating funding for the cricket pitch since this asset previously exists at Orin Reid Park.

The splash pad, washroom building, asphalt pathways, sunshade structure(s), and site furnishings will be new assets to the park that will require ongoing maintenance.

Ongoing maintenance within Orin Reid Park on other existing amenities, cricket pitch, grass cutting, and winter snow removal for the parking lot will continue as normal with no other impacts.

## **Consultations**

Community engagement is planned for this project as follows:

- Phase 1  
Survey introducing the project to residents and gather preliminary input on splash pads to inform design  
August 1 to 22 2024
- Phase 2  
Concept plans posted for resident input and feedback  
January 20 to February 14 2025

The August 20<sup>th</sup> AAC meeting will be the first consultation with AAC for this project. Staff will return soon and present a design that has incorporated your recommendations and feedback. Feedback received at the August meeting will be used to complete the design process for the project and the construction will be tendered in late fall 2025.

This project will also enter the site plan review process.

## **Attachments**

Attachment 1\_Presentation\_Introduction, Orin Reid Park Development Project

## **Departmental Approval**

Mallory Lemon, Manager, Park and Trail Development, Parks

## **Report Author**

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## **This report was approved by:**

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