

## **STAFF REPORT TO GREY COUNTY JOINT ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**FROM** Sherri Walden, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture  
Melissa Hilgendorff, Human Resources Manager

**DATE** March 29, 2022

**SUBJECT** **Town of Hanover Playground Retrofits**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That Report Town of Hanover Playground Retrofits be received; and
2. That the Grey County Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee (GCJAAC) provide input for consideration for the design of the updated playgrounds.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Town of Hanover Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee completed a review of outdoor Town parks. The committee proposed retrofits of the playgrounds located at Optimist Park and the Kinsmen Ball Park in 2022 and 2023 as a result of the review.

A successful application was made to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Community Building Fund to support a retrofit of all equipment at the Optimist Park playground area and most of the equipment at Kinsmen Ball Park.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) including accessibility provisions has been issued with a response due at the beginning of April. Proposals will be required to fulfill the Canadian Children's Playspaces and Equipment; A National Standard of Canada, Canadian Standards Association (CAN/CSA-Z614-14), including Annex H, which speaks to accessibility of playspaces and equipment.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Town of Hanover wishes to consult the GCJAAC as part of this project and in compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA). Feedback will be considered when reviewing responses to the RFP and in designing the play spaces.

In compliance with the AODA, the Town of Hanover will incorporate accessibility features including sensory and active play components into the design, as well as a stable ground surface in and around the play area.

It is anticipated the submitted playground designs will include a variety of equipment but not necessarily items from all categories listed below. Hanover is specifically seeking the GCJAAC's suggestions for possible equipment or other considerations with respect to the following categories:

- a) Sensory play equipment
- b) Ground level play elements
- c) Swing units
- d) Creative play and motion elements
- e) Stationary activity panels
- f) Social interaction or interactive play elements
- g) Active play elements such as slides, balancing, overhead play, and climbing
- h) Other

## SITE LAYOUTS

### **Optimist Park Playground 253 4th Street Crescent**

This playground is in a mature neighbourhood with a connecting trail link to a new residential development. The existing precinct size is 404 square metres with a wood fibre surface and is located in the westerly section of the property. The edge of the area is comprised of engineered wood fibre with rolled sod.

An aerial view of the existing park layout is depicted below. It is comprised of four separate play features placed to create a square shape with some green space between the feature and in the middle of the features.



**Kinsmen Ball Park Playground**  
**310 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Hanover, ON, N4N**

This playground is part of a site that includes three ball diamonds and a covered pavilion with indoor washrooms. The existing precinct size is 632 square metres with a wood fibre surface and is located in the westerly section of the property. The edge of the area is comprised of engineered wood fibre with rolled sod.

An aerial view of the existing park layout is depicted below. The play area is currently set in the southwest corner of the property. It is comprised of four play structures. One small structure is located in the northeast area of the playground. A larger structure is located in the southwest area and the two other structures are near the middle in addition to green space.

The Town of Hanover thanks the GCJAAC for their time, consideration and assistance.



Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Walden  
Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

Concurrence,

Melissa Hilgendorff  
HR Manager