Title of request: Parks Repairs and Remediation Program

Department: Community Services **Division:** Parks

Budget request: $1,220,000 **Funding Source:** Discretionary and Obligationary Reserves

Project highlights:

What: Repair, remediation and replacement of features and equipment in parks and open spaces

Why: To maintain service levels of park features and equipment. Some may have reached end of useful lives. Some may pertain to health and safety matters

When: Q1 2025 to Q4 2025

Where: Town wide

Project details and justification:

1. Replacement of plinths at Lawn Bowling Club – $20,000
   The green plinths on the lawn bowling green surface at the lawn bowling club requires replacement. The plinths are the wood structure that surrounds the bowling green surface and keeps the structural integrity of the outer surface of the green intact. The wood boards have started to rot away, split in some spots, and heave in different areas. The Lawn Bowling Club applied for a grant application to replace the plinths but were unsuccessful. This is not something that can wait to be replaced without major impact to the green surface. The Lawn Bowling Club will continue to work with the Town to apply for any and all grants possible to make improvements to the facility. However, further delays waiting for grant funding will result in costly impacts and downtime for the playing surface.

2. Gravel top up for parking lots – $30,000
   A number of gravel parking lots throughout the Town are in need of a gravel top up, including at some of our larger parking lots: the ball diamond and soccer field parking at the ROC, West Park, De La Salle, Willow Beach and Homes Point. Each lot receives a spring grade to attempt to reduce the number of potholes that emerge each spring. There hasn't been a gravel top up completed in a number of years which reduces the crown of the parking lots creating ponding water, improper drainage and an increased number of potholes. This request will be the first year of a

three-year request of $30,000 each year (for 2025, 2026, 2027) to top up all our existing gravel parking lots.

3. Playground replacement (High Castle Park) – $150,000
   In 2022, Council approved $150,000 on an annual basis to replace the playground equipment in selected community parks. The replacement park is selected each year on a number of factors, such as meeting its life expectancy, condition of equipment, level of usage and ongoing maintenance and repair costs. The Parks Division is taking a proactive approach to replace this equipment in a timely manner to make sure we are meeting all CSA required guideline and safety inspection. A third-party inspector has been brought in to conduct a safety inspection on our playground equipment and protective surfacing impact testing. High Castle Park is the next park identified for replacement.

4. Pathway repairs – various locations – $30,000
   There are a number of accessible asphalt pathways throughout our parks and trails system that are failing and becoming impassable. When they are in this condition, they create liability and safety issues. The pavement has either broken apart, cracked or heaved, which is common with the age and traffic these pathways experience. Immediate attention to the areas is required in order to keep the pathways open, accessible and safe for use while ensuring we are limiting barriers as much as possible.

5. Picnic table replacement – $50,000
   In 2023, Council approved $50,000 per year for the next three years (2024, 2025, 2026) to complete picnic table replacements. This request is part of the continued initiative.

6. Replace pay-and-display machines – $250,000
   Our current pay-and-display machines have been in service since 2012. Over the past two seasons we have seen a considerable amount of repairs and maintenance in the neighbourhood of $30,000 to try and keep the machines operational. The current machines operate off of 4G internet signal capability which is very intermittent considering the signal strength in Georgina. The new machines will have 5G technology and tap payment. The pay-and-display machines bring in roughly $750,000 per year and need to be operational at all times.

7. Install page wire fence at Mann Cemetery – $15,000
   As identified in the Pioneer Cemetery Master Plan, the boundaries of the Town's pioneer cemeteries need to be defined and fenced. The Town retained an Ontario

Land Surveyor to stake the property boundary at Mann Cemetery in 2024 as part of the vegetation removal efforts. A new fence will be installed at the property line to maintain an orderly boundary for the cemetery.

8. Revitalization of Jackson's Point Parkette – $90,000

This project aims to revitalize a tired and under-utilized urban park in Jackson's Point Parkette into an inviting and inclusive public place by removing and re-installing the existing interlock pavers. The steps throughout the pathways will be reconfigured to compliant ramps, that will create an accessible and AODA compliant pathway system throughout the park, accessible seating, inviting site furnishings, and improved lighting. This project aims to create a welcoming outdoor space where the community can gather and host events, benefitting surrounding businesses. Some of the community outcomes that we're hoping for as part of this project include:

- Renewed sense of community and pride of ownership in the space
- Incorporation of crime prevention through environmental design principles in the design
- Commercial opportunities for local businesses, artists, and community members through its use as an event space
- Better engagement with arts and culture
- More opportunity for quality open space for people living in apartments in the surrounding area

Given its central location in Jackson's Point, beneficiaries of this project will include local businesses and residents, seniors, low-income households, all of whom will use the new revitalized park. Residents along with the BIA and local artists will contribute programming at this parkette.

9. Waterfront Parks Master Plan design and upgrades – $500,000

In May 2024, Council endorsed the Waterfront Parks Master Plan and put forth recommendations for action as a result of the plan. Council requested that staff initiate the design and engineering contracts for the redevelopment of Willow Beach, as well several upgrades to our community parks. Both of these initiatives, along with all future initiatives coming out of the Waterfront Parks Master Plan, will required a considerable amount staff resources and the expertise of an in-house landscape architect.

a) Design and engineering of Willow Beach – $300,000

Development of a detailed design package and tender documents for Willow Beach based on conceptual designs from the Waterfront Parks Master Plan.

Detailed designs will also provide the Town with the ability to apply for any tender-ready grants that become available to help with financing of the redevelopment. The design objectives will include stormwater management improvements and reducing phosphorus runoff into Lake Simcoe. The park will be regraded to address the current issues with localized flooding. The park will be graded to move stormwater away from pedestrian and activity areas to planted, naturalized areas and bioswales wherever possible.

b) Community parks upgrades – $100,000

Low-cost, high-impact upgrades to a number of community parks in accordance with the Waterfront Parks Master Plan. Residents will see updated signage, QR code capability for park rules and guidelines, new park furnishings such as bike racks and benches, as well as topdressing/re-seeding lawn areas as needed. The objective of this initiative is to bring improvements to local community parks in addition to the major parks renewal project at Willow Beach.

c) Landscape Architect – $100,000

The Community Services Team, more specifically Parks, is undertaking an increasing demand for subdivision applications that requires careful and detailed review to make every effort possible to ensure the Town is receiving first-class park design and amenities. In 2024 and leading into 2025, the Park teams will be working hard to implement the Waterfront Parks Master Plan, along with an updated Parks and Trails Master Plan and Asset Management Plan. As a result of these plans, the expertise of an in-house Landscape Architect is needed to work with the Parks Manager to ensure the Community Services team can deliver the best results for our community.

In recent years, the Town had a full-time Landscape Architect who reported to the Parks Department when it was under Operations and Infrastructure. When Parks was moved from Operations and Infrastructure and joined forces with Community Services, the Landscape Architect position was moved to the Building Division to help with policy writing. A full-time Landscape Architect is needed to support the Community Services Department for all future capital improvement projects. Staff anticipate cost savings through this position by offsetting design expenditures currently outsourced to outside consultants. It will also bring an in-house cohesive approach for the Landscape Architect to work directly with our Capital Projects Team and Parks Team.

10. Dock repairs – $25,000

Staff have completed detailed inspections of our docks within the Town of Georgina. Mainly Jackson's Point Harbour and Sheppard's Wharf. Both docks are nearing the end of their life cycle and will ultimately require a complete rebuild that will require significant funding. Until such time that capital funding can be put in place for replacement, funding is required on an annual basis to make the necessary repairs to keep the docks in safe operational conditions.

11. Cenotaph upgrades – $60,000

The Sutton Cenotaph and the Pefferlaw Memorial are showing signs of deterioration and are in need of repair. Refurbishment and general upgrades to both monuments are needed to preserve the dignity of these memorial spaces and to return the monuments a state of good repair. The Town aims to increase visibility and invite more public interaction through these repairs.

Staff will work in consultation with the Pefferlaw Lions and the Sutton Legion to conduct the necessary specialty repairs and refurbishment of the monuments, within the approved project budget. Restoration activities are anticipated to include: general cleaning of monument exteriors, adding of new benches, repairs to monument foundations as required, repainting exterior stonework, and other repairs to address damage/weathering/deterioration etc.

Nature of initiative/review factors:

☐ Legislative ☒ Growth ☒ Risk management ☒ Service level change

☒ Strategic priority ☒ Efficiency ☐ Adopted plan/study

☐ Other (please specify):

Link to Strategic Plan Departmental Business Plans or other plans:

Delivering Service Excellence – Proactively manage infrastructure and assets to ensure service continuity

Diversifying Our Local Economy – Continue to support Georgina's tourism sector as an economic driver by delivering the Waterfront Master Plan

Financial impact:

Funded by the following reserves:

Discretionary

- Parks - repair and replacement – $355,000