



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From: R. Wayne Ward
Position: Manager Facilities and IT
Title / Subject: Playground Equipment
Date of Report: December 1, 2022
Date of Meeting: December 12, 2022
Report No: 2022-PRF-020

1.0 Issue / Origin

In the 2022 capital budget \$50,000 was allotted for New Playground Equipment for Fairgate Parkette and Gamebridge Park with funding coming from Development Charges – Parks.

There has already been a purchase and delivery of a new swing set for Gamebridge Park which will be installed in 2023 when weather and ground conditions are suitable.

This report is to address the Fairgate Parkette portion of this capital project.

2.0 Background

Within the Fairgate subdivision there are two locations that were investigated for installation of new playground equipment suitable for the area and ages of the children.

This new equipment is to supplement existing playground equipment in place at the Sunderland Arena Fairgrounds.

3.0 Analysis

Several meetings and discussions occurred regarding a suitable location for this new equipment. These discussions also included the Durham Municipal Insurance Pool who declined to provide a recommendation on either of the two submitted locations.

The locations provided were Rennie Street on the southwest corner and Albert Street south between Albert Street and Antioch Court.

The Rennie Street location is where the road changes direction from north/south to an east/west. This location has a very restricted area with some areas only being 51 feet from point to point. There is

limited area in which to install this type of equipment and maintain a safety buffer from the roadway. There is no parking available as this is located on a bend in the road. There is a residence located at the north west corner as well as another residence at the east end of the area. Farm property is located to the south with Rennie Street on the north.

The Albert Street location is south of Brethour Street and is between Albert Street South and Antioch Court. This location has a much larger area with dimensions of approximately 135 feet by 210 feet. There is a storm water management pond located to the south of this property with Albert Street to the east and residential properties backing onto the area from the north and west sides. An access into this area is available from Antioch Court as well as Albert Street.

While both locations have limitations the size of the Albert Street location lends to allow for placement of the equipment away from roadways and the storm water management pond. Additionally, parking could be made available at the south end of the area, just north of the storm water management pond with access off Albert Street. With additional items such as armour stone, benches, garbage and recycling receptacles, bicycle racks and picnic tables this area could be inviting to many users.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

None

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

This has already been approved in the 2022 Capital budget

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

No climate change impacts result directly from this installation. Improvements could be made with additional planting of trees and naturalization of some areas within the property.

7.0 Communications

None

8.0 Conclusion

An initial installation of a play structure designed for an age group of 18 months to 12 years is suitable for the Albert Street area and is a supplement to the existing playground area within the Sunderland Fairgrounds. The site lends itself to additional structures of similar fashion along with amenities such as benches and tables to create an area for many uses.

9.0 Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council approve the site between Albert Street and Antioch Court in Sunderland as the location for installation of a new playground structure in the 2023 year.