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Date January 16, 2025 **Report No.** 2025-52

To Chair and Members
Brantford Accessibility Advisory Committee

From Jennifer Elliott, LET, C.E.T., Dipl.M.M
Director, Engineering Services

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item
Item For Consideration

2.0 Topic **Arrowdale Community Park Development – Update [Financial Impact – None]**

3.0 Recommendation

THAT Staff Report 2025-52 – Arrowdale Community Park Development – Update BE RECEIVED.

4.0 Background

City Council directed park lands be retained for a community park that will be accessible to the public year-round and designed in close consultation with the community. This unique development will serve the immediate neighbourhood, but given its scope and scale, it will also benefit the broader community by providing enhanced amenities and park features that go beyond what is typically found in a neighbourhood park.

The new community park, located at 375 Rawdon Street, will not be gated, require no fees or membership, and will ensure that the parklands are accessible to all residents free of charge, year-round. The design of the park was shaped by valuable public input, ensuring that the amenities can be enjoyed in all seasons.

In 2023, the City, along with Field Monitors from Six Nations of the Grand River and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations, completed the Archaeological Investigations on the site and established the Archaeological Preservation Area. Additionally, the City constructed a Dog Park on the Elgin Street side of the property. With the design plan for Arrowdale Community Park now complete, the park reflects both community feedback and preservation requirements.

5.0 Analysis

The City retained professional consulting services to design, and develop the redevelopment of Arrowdale Park. The successful consultant was tasked to design a new park space complete with washroom access for park users along with a dedicated parking lot off Rawdon Street, a park building with two (2) universal washrooms, a storage room, and a mechanical room, a large splash pad, a playground area, meandering nature trails, a shade structure, benches, bicycle racks, various shrubs and trees, and additional plantings. The City is also working on incorporating Indigenous features and components into the park to honor Brantford's rich history.

The City of Brantford Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) were referenced during the design of the building, the design has gone through the site plan application process and accessibility design requirements are included in the overall design budget for the building.

Accessible Features included in this design are:

- The multi-use trail will have an improved smooth surface, grading, and cross slope where possible, ensuring that all visitors can access the site and its features;
- New benches will be installed along the trail with accessible seating space beside them;
- The new washroom building will include two universal washrooms, each designed according to FADS and AODA requirements and equipped with an adult change table. (Appendix "B");

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- A new parking lot will be constructed with accessible parking spots and a curb ramp for easy access to the park;
 - The playground will feature rubberized safety surfacing and playground equipment catering to all abilities;
 - The splash pad will include accessible features and concrete surfacing for wheelchair access; and
 - A new shade shelter will be built on a concrete base flush with surrounding areas.

The construction of the new Arrowdale Park has commenced and will continue through to Fall 2025.

6.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report. All costs associated with the accessibility improvements for the Arrowdale Park design are included in the approved capital budget.

7.0 Climate and Environmental Implications

This report does not have any direct climate and environmental implications.

8.0 Conclusion

The City of Brantford actively worked with a consultant through design, and the construction of Arrowdale Park has commenced. The City is committed to constructing a fully accessible and inclusive park for the general public and strives to ensure that the concepts and actions in delivering goods and services to persons with disabilities remain progressive. AODA and FADS compliance will be achieved in all park designs.



Jennifer Elliott, LET, C.E.T., Dipl.M.M.
Director, Engineering Services

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Attachments (if applicable)

Appendix "A" Construction Plan of Arrowdale Park

Appendix "B" Floor Plan and Elevations of the Washroom Building

Copy to:

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required yes no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk yes no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? yes no