



## **STAFF REPORT**

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**Meeting Date: May 9, 2022**

**Title: Milestone Skating Oval Development Project**

**Prepared By: Steve Belanger**

**Department:** Community Services

**Report Number: Community Services-2022-004**

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### **Recommendation:**

That Council authorize staff to accept a citizen donation of up to \$55,000.00 and proceed with the development of a skating oval on a parcel of land immediately east of Milestone Rink on the land identified as Milestone Park located at 168 Morrison Avenue.

### **Background:**

The popularity of skating ovals continues to grow as individuals and families look for low or no cost outdoor recreational opportunities. This recommendation has been developed in response to resident advocacy after the City announced the Ontario Trillium Foundation award to renovate Milestone Rink. Shortly after announcing the planned work, City staff and some elected officials received requests for development of an outdoor skating opportunity free of the pucks, sticks and incidental contact that are commonly associated with hockey games.

Upon hearing of the requests and concerns, the Wilson family inquired about the costs associated with bringing a second outdoor skating surface to life. Staff solicited contractor recommendations for the proposed site, staff gathered quotations to complete an asphalt skating oval that can offer ice skating in winter months and roller or inline skating during the summer months.

**Discussion:**

Although the intent of the existing Milestone rink is to be a universal facility that can accommodate hockey, leisure skating and ringette, the rink can be dominated by hockey which presents challenges and safety hazards for families and individuals looking to use the rink for the leisure or figure skating.

The total footprint of the play surface will be approximately 5000 square feet. Site preparations include excavation of the existing ground cover to a depth of 12 inches, supply and packing 12" of granular substrate and paving of 10-foot-wide pathways. In total, there will be approximately 500 linear feet of skateable surface. A drainage weep shall be installed on south side of the property to redirect water coming off the hill and prevent accumulations below the surface that could result in frost heaving of the asphalt surface.

The proposed pathway is to be 10 feet wide which will allow for a skater to safely pass another skater travelling at a slower pace. 8–10-inch boards and/or polycarbonate sheeting will be used to form a border that will serve to identify the skating track for users and ice re-surfacer alike while also acting as a berm that assists in holding water on the skate path until it freezes.

Also included in the work and the donation is the installation of 2 light standards, the required cabling and associated connections for 2 LED fixtures that will illuminate the skating surface. Lighting controls will ensure they operate on the same schedule as the outdoor rink. The property will only be illuminated in the winter months and the outbuilding shack will remain locked during the summer months.

**Financial Implications:**

No direct financial requests are being made of the City of Dryden for the development of the skating oval, although it is recognized there will be an increase in labour costs related to snow removal, ice maintenance and an increase in hydro and water consumption associated with lighting the skate surface and building ice.

**Attachments (Reference Material):**

Satellite image of proposed site.