



# The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

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## Staff Report

**Report Title: Parks and Trails Plan**

**Date: Dec. 2, 2024**

**Report Number: CS-2024-12-51**

**Department: Community Services**

**File Number: C11 CS 24**

**Prepared By: Mike Fair, Director of Community Services**

**Attachments: Huron-Kinloss Parks and Trails Plan – Final Draft, Lions Park Neighbourhood Comments**

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report CS-2024-12-51 prepared by Mike Fair, Director of Community Services;

AND FURTHER adopts the Parks and Trails Plan prepared by Pl.ural in principle;

AND FURTHER authorizes the appropriate by-law coming forward.

### **Background:**

Since commencing the project in May 2024, it was identified that community engagement would be an important component of the Huron-Kinloss Parks and Trails Plan development process. Working with the Township, an engagement plan composed of four (4) in-person open houses for the Lucknow, Ripley, Lakeshore, and Heritage Park communities, accompanied by an online survey and final hybrid presentation of 18 park conceptual designs.

A series of 'drop-in' style open house events were hosted to inform the community of the ongoing project and offer an opportunity for public input. To help spread the word, a township-prepared communications package included social media posts, mailouts, postcards and direct emails. Project information was posted to the Municipal website and the Have your Say HK website to accommodate seasonal residents and those who could not attend the engagement events.

### **In-Person Open Houses**

- Lucknow - Wednesday July 17th, 2024 (4 parks)
- Ripley - Wednesday, July 31st, 2024 (4 parks)
- Point Clark - Saturday, August 17th, 2024 (10 parks)
- Heritage Park - Saturday, September 21st, 2024

### **Online Survey**

- Open July 15th, 2024, to August 19th, 2024, with 325 respondents

## **Final Hybrid Presentation to the Public**

• Design Concepts for 18 Parks - Saturday, September 21st, 2024. During the September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024, meeting the option for pickleball courts being developed at Lions Park was suggested. A special meeting for the Lion's Park neighbourhood was held on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to gather feedback.

### **Discussion/Analysis/Overview:**

Staff created a wish list of key outcomes of the Trails and Parks Plan. Plurl Consulting along with Community engagement meetings, and surveys has provided staff with a guide for future decisions for capital investments, asset management, and levels of services. Timelines have been established however they are guidelines and subject to change.

**Pickleball Court Location.** The Lions Park neighbourhood meeting was held on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and responses are attached for your review. The result is that Lions Park is not a good location for pickleball courts. Staff have since met with the Pickleball volunteers and determined that there is capacity at the Point Clark Community Centre as per the updated design concept in the Parks and Trails Plan. The proposed courts are sheltered, further away from residents, and Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority has provided preliminary neutral comments. Staff is preparing grant applications for the project.

In conclusion staff is pleased with the outcomes of the Trails and Parks Plan and if Council has no further concerns, then staff recommend the plan be brought forward to the December 2024 Council meeting for approval.

### **Financial Impacts:**

There are significant impacts for key projects in the next twenty years. Staff will continue to research grant opportunities and community partnerships, while providing solid capital planning and operating budgets to meet the needs of Parks and Trails in Huron-Kinloss.

### **Performance Measurement:**

Completion of Parks and Trails Redevelopment Strategy

### **Strategic Area:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embrace a thriving rural lifestyle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhance Municipal Service Delivery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for Inclusive Growth       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure Financial Stability         |

**Strategic Goal: Encourage strong communication and community engagement**  
**Manage assets and infrastructure**

### **Respectfully Submitted By:**

Mike Fair, Director of Community Services

### **Report Approved By:**

Jodi MacArthur, Chief Administrative Officer