



TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH

TO: Mayor and Council

DATE: 2025-04-22

MEETING TYPE: Open

SUBMITTED BY: Mandy Jones, Manager Community & Economic Development

REPORT #: C&ED 2025-015

REPORT TITLE: RFP 2025-009 Lion Merv Weber Playground

RECOMMENDED MOTION

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report 2025-015 being a report on the award of RFP 2025-009 for the upgrades to Lion Merv Weber Playground;

AND THAT the Council award Proposal 2025-009 to Park N Water Ltd at a total cost to the Township of \$149,651.44 (including HST);

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve a 6% contingency fee subject to the outcome of the community consultation;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorize staff to sign any necessary agreements with Park N Water Ltd.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/BY-LAWS/RESOLUTIONS

- 2025 Capital Budget
- Recreation Master Plan 2018

BACKGROUND

The 2018 Recreation Master Plan identified that 82% of survey respondents supported additional investment in playgrounds through continued upgrades, including features accessible to children with disabilities.

Playground design has evolved over time, from traditional elements such as slides, swings, and climbers to more creative elements that involve interactive and challenging play, with most playground features having a lifespan of about twenty years. The new play structure will be designed with accessibility features and components in mind.

Recommendation 38 “Establish a playground replacement program, with a short-term focus on playgrounds in Campbell deVore Park (including the pathway) and Birmingham Street Lions Park (including flood control measures). Regular inspections may identify other capital priorities or preventative maintenance requirements. Playgrounds should be designed to comply with AODA requirements and be welcoming and accessible to all families, including the phase-out of sand surface materials in favour of engineered wood fibre.”

Project Overview: To provide functional, durable playground equipment with diverse play options for all ages and abilities. Key evaluation criteria include references/experience, maintenance durability, design, cost, and project timeline.

Location: Lion Merv Weber Playground is located at Birmingham St. and Queen St., Mount Forest.

Existing Conditions: The site faces water runoff challenges and requires proper drainage. The sand surfacing will be replaced with engineered wood fiber for accessibility and safety. Existing newer components like the friendship swing, swing set, and plastic play pieces will be maintained in the new design, while the older structure will be removed.

ANALYSIS

The Township received four submissions for the project. Each submission was assessed and evaluated by staff based on the following criteria:

- **Adherence to the RFP Document:** 10 points
- **Experience / History / References:** 10 points
- **Ease of Serviceability / Maintenance / Warranty:** 10 points
- **Schedule / Timeline:** 10 points
- **Design:** 30 points
- **Cost:** 30 points

The successful proponent was chosen based on which proposal staff determined to be the most beneficial, considering the criteria listed above. All proposals were evaluated for completeness, suitability of the project, and other relevant factors. Although all submissions were close in their scoring, Park N Water Ltd. ultimately received the highest points.

Experience: Park N Water Ltd. has over 30 years of experience in designing and installing playgrounds across Canada, with over 450 completed projects, including notable installations in municipalities like Tillsonburg, Middlesex Centre, and Sault Ste. Marie. The company is certified in CSA compliance and employs in-house installers for consistent quality control.

Warranty - BCI Burke Details:

- 100-Year Warranty: Posts, clamps, hardware, and bolt-through systems.
- 15-Year Warranty: Platforms, decks, metal roofs, and plastic components.
- 5-Year Warranty: Moving parts like swing components and cables.
- 3-Year Warranty: Electronic panel components.

- Park N Water Ltd. provides a 24-hour response time for warranty and vandalism issues, ensuring timely resolutions.

Project Scope - Design and install a new playground, including:

- Community consultation
- Removal of old equipment
- Integration of newer existing components
- Site preparation and drainage improvements
- Installation of new playground structures and components
- Installation of engineered wood fiber surfacing
- Barrier along Queen Street

Theme: The playground will cater to preschool (2-5 years), elementary (5-12 years), and young adults (13+ years) with sensory and accessible features. The design exceeds provincial AODA and CSA 2614-20 standards, ensuring accessibility for all users. By incorporating components that allow for graduated levels of challenge, children will be able to enjoy the space throughout their childhood as they develop and increase both strength and skill.

Play Experiences: The design includes opportunities for climbing, sliding, spinning, swinging, balancing, upper body activities, and bouldering. By focusing on a variety of play, the playground will offer social, creative, imaginative, and sensory play experiences. Activities are designed for beginner, intermediate, and advanced play, encouraging children to return to the play environment time after time.

Accessibility: Designs submitted exceed CSA Annex H recommendations and comply with AODA standards. Features include transfer stations, sensory-rich play elements, and ground-level activities to ensure inclusivity for children of all abilities. Letters of compliance confirm adherence to AODA and CSA Z614-20 standards. Staff will provide the design to the County of Wellington Accessibility Committee for their awareness.

CONSULTATION:

Jenn VanDyk - Supervisor of Facility Services

A community consultation will be organized to present design options for feedback. This aims to gather input from residents to ensure the new playground meets the community's needs and preferences.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Capital: \$160,000.00 included in the 2025 Capital Budget. While the current submission is under this budget amount, the results of the community consultation could bring the number closer to the budgeted \$160,000.00 for total project costs.

Staffing Implications: Project Management

ATTACHMENTS

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024

- Shape and support sustainable growth
How:
- Deliver quality, efficient community services aligned with the Township's mandate and capacity
How:
- Enhance information sharing and participation in decision-making
How:
- N/A Core-Service

Approved by: Brooke Lambert, Chief Administrative Officer