

Topic: Tomahawk & District Sports & Agra Society – Major Capital Grant Request

Introduction:

As per Policy C-RP03, Tomahawk & District Sports & Agra Society's request for \$30,175 under the Sustainability Grant – Major Capital for their playground redevelopment is being presented to Council for consideration.

Background Information:

Tomahawk Sport & Agra Society has long been active in maintaining and enhancing their programs and amenities for community opportunities in sport, recreation and agriculture. As a highly used portion of their outdoor facilities, the playground has reached the end of its lifespan and is no longer CSA approved. The playground was not only used by local children but also for groups, visitors and tourists who attend functions at the site.

The playground was inspected and determined to be non-compliant with CSA standards and at an age where modifications were not cost-effective or feasible. Research has been done to select a playground equipment supplier, which included the evaluation of price, quality and range of equipment. Blue Imp was selected and a concept plan developed. The surface material for the base has yet to be selected pending total final funding. The total budget for the proposed project was estimated at \$60,350. Community support for the proposed project has been obtained.

Tomahawk Sport and Agra Society began fundraising and researching grants, corporate and private sponsorships available, as well as fundraising opportunities and soliciting donations. As of June 15, 2014 they have raised \$11,546.19 through numerous fundraising activities. With several major fundraisers planned for Fall 2014 as well as grant applications having been submitted, they are hoping to increase this amount funds raised.

Analysis:

Administration has been involved with Tomahawk Sport & Agra Society in the provision of information and referrals, the Community Development Coordinator assigned to them having been kept apprised of the progress regularly.

Should Council approve the funding being requested, Tomahawk Sport & Agra Society would then be in position for a Spring 2015 build or to use that commitment, along with their own fundraising and in-kind contributions, to if necessary apply for a matching grant

Alternatives:

1. Council could approve funding at a different value.
2. Council could choose to not approve funding for this initiative.

Conclusion/Summary:

Administration is recommending approval of the funding request. Tomahawk & District Sport & Agra Society has done a significant amount of background work in relation to this project and has support from local residents to proceed. The project meets all requirements under the Sustainability Grant – Major Capital and Administration will continue to work with Tomahawk Sport & Agra Society until the project reaches completion.

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