

**Municipality of Chatham-Kent**  
**Infrastructure and Engineering Services**  
**Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Jeff Bray  
Director, Parks Recreation and Cemeteries  
**Date:** March 23, 2021  
**Subject:** 2021 Parks Asset Lifecycle Projects

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**Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

1. The 2021 parks asset lifecycle projects valued at \$1,391,100 be approved and funded through the Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve.

**Background**

The Municipality maintains 144 parks totalling 628 acres (254 hectares) of active and passive parkland.

In 2003, a Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve was established to fund replacement costs of major park components. The parks building components include replacements of windows, roofs, gravel lots, flooring, exterior and surface maintenance, etc. Park components include light standards, bleachers, tennis courts, pathways, ball diamond surfaces, beach amenities and soccer surfaces.

**Comments**

Parks projects were reviewed with priority given to the following items:

- Safety/health related
- Maintenance of critical investment
- Mandated/legislated
- Cost avoidance
- Partnership funding availability

Administration has identified priority projects to be completed in 2021 (Attachment A). A contingency has been included in the total estimated cost for quote overages, emergency repairs or replacements.

### **Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors**

The recommendation in this report supports the following areas of strategic focus:

Economic Prosperity:

Chatham-Kent is an innovative and thriving community with a diversified economy

A Healthy and Safe Community:

Chatham-Kent is a healthy and safe community with sustainable population growth

People and Culture:

Chatham-Kent is recognized as a culturally vibrant, dynamic, and creative community

Environmental Sustainability:

Chatham-Kent is a community that is environmentally sustainable and promotes stewardship of our natural resources

The recommendation in this report supports the following critical success factors:

Financial Sustainability:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is financially sustainable

Open, Transparent and Effective Governance:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is open, transparent and effectively governed with efficient and bold, visionary leadership

Has the potential to support all areas of strategic focus & critical success factors

Neutral issues (does not support negatively or positively)

### **Consultation**

Financial Services has verified the current balance in the Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve for the 2020 year end.

All Facility Supervisors and the Supervisor, Chatham Parks and Horticulture provided input on projects in their respective areas.

**Financial Implications**

The following is the status of the 2021 Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve:

<b>2021 Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve</b>	
2020 Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve Balance	\$1,142,861
2021 Lifecycle Allotment	\$438,209
<b>Total Funding Available for 2021 Projects</b>	<b>\$1,581,070</b>
2021 Proposed Project Costs <sup>A</sup>	-\$1,391,100
<b>Balance Remaining in Lifecycle Reserve</b>	<b>\$189,970</b>

**Note A:** Contingency of \$100,000 for project overages is accounted for in the estimate.

The balance remaining in the Parks Asset Lifecycle Reserve at the end of 2021 will remain in the lifecycle budget for future projects.

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 Jeff Bray  
 Director  
 Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries

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 Thomas Kelly, P.Eng., MBA  
 General Manager  
 Infrastructure and Engineering Services

Attachment: A – 2021 Parks Asset Lifecycle Projects

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**Attachment A – 2021 Parks Asset Lifecycle Projects**

The estimates of each individual project have been removed to ensure a competitive bid process.

<b>Community</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Project Scope</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Erieau	Laverne Kelly Park	Outfield fence installation	Player safety.	
	McGregor Park	Site fencing	Control park access.	
	Blenheim baseball diamonds	Chain link fence repairs	Annual maintenance.	
Bothwell	Bothwell Optimist Park	Fence replacement	Existing fence is broken and requires replacement.	
Dresden	McVean Ball Diamond	Warning track installation	Player safety.	
		Outfield perimeter fence topper installation	Player safety.	
		Foul poles replacement	Existing poles are 40 years old and are in disrepair.	
	Jackson Park	Side fence and backstop replacement	Public safety issues. Existing fencing has become unstable.	
	LKCS Ball Diamond	Clay infield construction	Project cost shared with the Dresden Community Sportfield Committee.	

Community	Location	Project Scope	Comments	Estimated Cost
Ridgetown	Mickle Park	Repair/replace asphalt pathway sections	Public safety. Path has many cracks and trip hazards due to tree roots.	
		Replace tennis court lights with LED	Energy efficiency. Staff will apply for grants.	
Thamesville	Ferguson Park	New ball diamond LED light installation	Existing lights are 40+ years old and inefficient. Staff will apply for grants.	
		Parking lot perimeter wood bollard replacement	Public safety. Existing bollards are rotten. Will be replaced with chain link fencing to control ATVs.	
Tilbury	Memorial Park	Fence replacement.	Decaying. Sections were damaged in 2020 storm.	
	Northside Park	Refurbish existing laneway.	Additional granular material needed due to erosion and potholes.	
Wheatley	Wheatley Area Sports Complex	Refurbish #8 diamond infield	Player safety and improve drainage.	
		Soccer fields turf maintenance	Enhance new soccer playing surface and ensure user safety.	
		Add pickleball lines onto tennis courts	Increase viability of existing facility.	

Community	Location	Project Scope	Comments	Estimated Cost
Wallaceburg	Glen Mickle Park	Lacrosse court surface repair	Repairs are required to the seams and additional infill is required.	
		Parking lot line painting	Existing lines require repainting.	
	Washroom Facilities - Parks & Downtown Core	Replace lock system	There's been an increase in people seeking shelter in washroom facilities within the downtown core resulting in vandalism. The proposed system will provide increased protection during the off-season.	
	Glassford Park	Replace park security lighting	Facility security. Existing light/pole blew over in a windstorm and requires replacement.	
Mitchell's Bay	Mitchell's Bay Beach	Shot rock placement	Breakwall maintenance.	
	Mitchell's Bay Beach	Concrete ramps - rubber matting replacement	Public safety. Annual wear item.	
Chatham	Kingston Park	Light standard replacement	Existing poles have been vandalized. Replace existing 4' poles with 10' mounted poles.	

Community	Location	Project Scope	Comments	Estimated Cost
Chatham	Rotary Park	Foul ball net replacement.	Existing has deteriorated.	
		Replacement of ball field Lights	Existing lights are 30 years old and have exceeded their lifespan.	
	Thames Campus	Bird proofing shelter	Eliminate birds roosting	
	Thames Grove Park	Parking lot perimeter bollard replacement	Existing bollards are rotting. Required to secure area.	
		Annual river dredging	Required to facilitate boat launching.	
	Women's Institute Park	Replace bollards along roadway	Existing bollards are rotting. Required to secure area.	
	Various locations	Infield upgrades	Maintenance at 13 sites.	
		ITT Lifecycle charge	Tablets for inspections.	
		Replace washroom partitions	Metal replacements to replace worn wood units.	
		Replace park lighting with LED fixtures.	Energy efficiency. Staff will apply for grants.	
		Electrical repairs	Vandal-proofing various areas targeted by thieves and ESA mandated.	

Community	Location	Project Scope	Comments	Estimated Cost
All Districts	Various locations	Park identification sign replacements	Required due to age and wear.	
		Dead tree removal	Emergency removals and public safety.	
		Emergency repairs	Contingency for emergency repairs or replacements.	
Totals				\$1,391,100