

Report to Council

Report Title: Optimist Park Playground Retaining Wall

Prepared By: Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

Department: Parks and Recreation

Date: February 8, 2022

Report Number: REC2022-04 **File Number:** C11REC, R05

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2022-04 – Optimist Park Playground Retaining Wall, prepared by Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

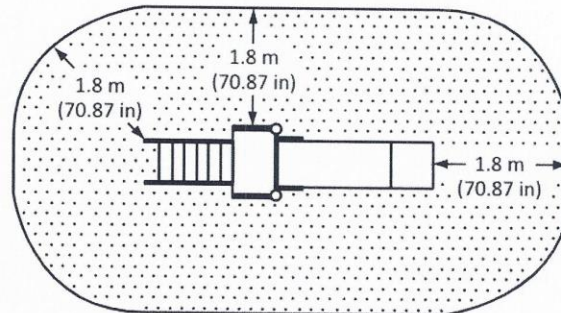
In 2019 through 2020, the Municipality in partnership with the Walkerton and District Optimist Club substantially completed Phase I of the Optimist Park Accessible Playground located beside the Walkerton Community Centre at 290 Durham Street.

Once the equipment was installed, a review of the playground and site conditions was completed. The review was completed in accordance with CSA-Z614:20 National Standard of Canada for Children's Playground Equipment and Surfacing by Brockton parks and recreation staff with current certification as a registered playground inspector/practitioner. The reviewer noted that the immediate playground equipment and rubberized play surface meets the technical standards and provides for a minimum 6 foot protective surfacing (Safety Zone) beyond the bottom exit of the slides.

However, a further 6 foot no encroachment zone beyond the safety zone is not provided. The intent of the no encroachment zone is so that persons in and around the playground can circulate around playground equipment features without crossing through those safety zones as well as no placement of other structures such as posts, benches, tables. See Figure below.



Figure 31
Protective surfacing zone for independent slides with platform heights of 1.2 m (47.24 in) or less
 (See Clause 14.5.)

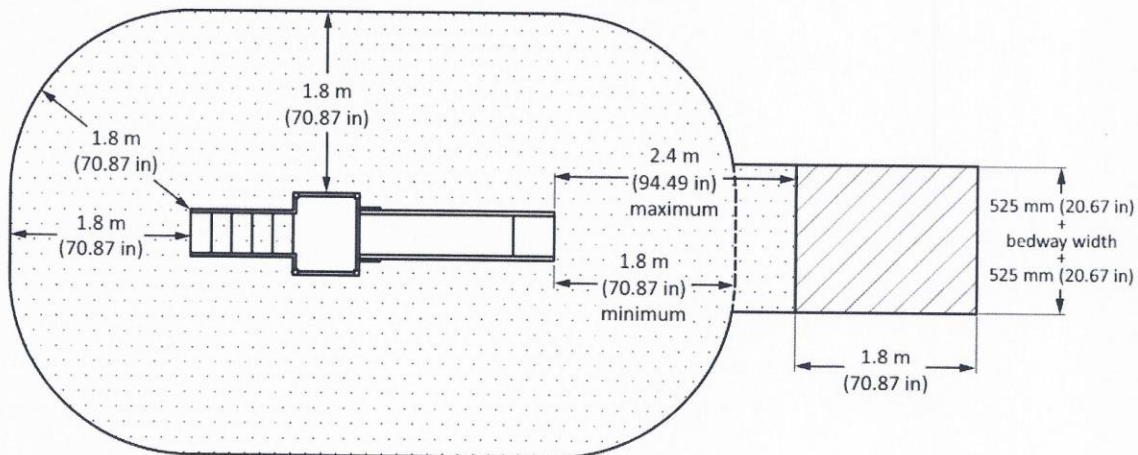


Plan view



Protective surfacing zone

Figure 32
Protective surfacing and no-encroachment zones for independent slides with platform heights greater than 1.2 m (47.24 in)
 (See Clause 14.5.)



Protective surfacing zone



No-encroachment zone

We bring this to Council's attention for information purposes as requested at the January 25th and 26th, 2022 budget presentation and deliberation meetings.

Analysis:

Due to the proximity of the embankment and resulting slope starting within 1 foot of the outer edge of the safety zone for the two slides, a no encroachment zone is absent with the current landscaping of the site.

As such, the capital project proposed in the draft 2022 budget would provide for a 100-foot-long x 6 foot high retaining wall with 4 foot high fence line on top for the entire length of the embankment to provide the additional 6 foot no encroachment zone and provide a barrier that prevents persons from inadvertently falling off embankment/retaining wall and satisfying the accessible walkway approach to the playground.

This work would also serve to reduce grass maintenance on a slope and stabilize and prevent erosion of the slope from rain events and wear and tear from foot traffic.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- | | |
|---|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance | Yes |

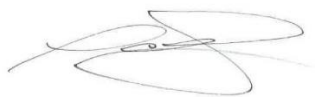
Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The project would reduce the risk of potential fall, injury and claim by persons using the playground area.

The updated draft 2022 budget proposes the \$35,000 capital project expense be funded by the Westario Reserve Fund.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonya Watson", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer