

Report to Council

Report Title: Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund - Stream 1

Prepared By: Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Department: Recreation

Date: October 22, 2024

Report Number: REC2024-20

File Number: C11REC, F11

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2024-20 - Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund - Stream 1, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves staff applying for the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund Stream 1- Repair and Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities for the Walkerton Community Centre Elevator Lift Replacement.

Report:

Background:

In April of 2024 the Government of Ontario announced \$200 million in capital funding through Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF). This funding is directed towards the revitalization of existing community sport and recreation facilities, as well as the construction of new facilities across the Province.

On August 19, 2024, Premier Ford announced the opening of a new Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund during his speech at the 2024 AMO Conference. Grant details including deadlines dates and application requirements were provided on this date. This funding opportunity is divided into two distinct streams:

- Stream 1: This stream is designed for the repair and rehabilitation of existing facilities. Proposals can request funding ranging from \$150,000 to \$1 million, covering up to 50% of eligible project costs. The deadline to submit proposals for Stream 1 is **October 29, 2024**. All projects must be completed within 24 months of entering a Transfer Payment Agreement with the province.
- Stream 2: This stream supports new facility construction. Proposals are accepted on an ongoing basis, with funding available up to \$10 million, applicants can request up to 50% of eligible project costs. Deadline submission date is **ongoing**, project completion deadline is **March 31, 2027**.
- It is to be noted both streams require a Council resolution of support or endorsement to apply.

The Walkerton Community Centre Auditorium is used regularly by residents of Brockton to attend hockey games, family events, celebrations, municipal events, fundraisers and recreational programming for all ages. The current elevator lift is in poor condition and requires extensive repairs to fix. The mechanism of the lift size and weight capacities only allow for the use of one person at a time, requires staff to assist with access and takes an inconvenient amount of time to transition from the outside ground level to auditorium entrance.

The Walkerton Community Centre Auditorium is a multi purpose, community space that plays an important role in facilitating recreation opportunities accessible to all Brockton residents and visitors and is used extensively for the summer day camps programs as well. The Accessibility Advisory Committee and staff have been working to identify accessibility barriers and ways we can improve our facilities to meet AODA requirements. The elevator lift is a necessary component within the community centre that will serve the community inclusively for the lifespan of the facility.

Analysis:

The current arena recently underwent an extensive Facility Conditions Assessment, and the Walkerton Community Centre received an FCI standard rating of 0.56 which is considered fair condition. It should be noted that anything over 0.60 is considered in poor condition. The report listed numerous requirements that the Walkerton Community Centre should undergo in the next 1-5 years totaling an estimated \$5,757,882.00. Many of these capital improvements are necessary for continued operation of the Walkerton Community Centre as an ice arena. There are many projects of importance and priority. Staff looked to find a project that best fit the grant application criteria, could be delivered within the deadlines, provides continuity and longevity for all future building plans and if successful will not have significant impacts to the tax based budget.

CSRIF Stream 1 supports projects that:

- extend the lifespan of existing facilities
- maximize the use of existing facilities (for example, use of space, increasing hours of operation, enhancing functionality and/or participation rates)
- improve health and safety, accessibility and environment standards of facilities (for example, access to facility or field of play, lower operating costs, etc.)

Rebuilding the Walkerton Community Centre elevator lift replaces the outdated elevator shaft and modernizes the system, improves facility compliance with the AODA regulations, improves safety and reliability for all users and enhances the overall accessibility and functionality of the building for staff, visitors, and residents all year round. This project aligns with our municipal commitment to providing accessible and safe facilities for all and will make a significant positive impact on the building's usability for many years to come.

It is also noted in the grant application that strong applications contain “plans, designs and details, financial resources, quotes and estimates, letters of support”. Upon direction by Council to apply, staff will provide our recent facility condition assessments, request a letter of support from Julie Sawchuk, Accessibility Consultant, who recently toured and identified our elevator lift as a barrier and enlist local builders to provide accurate estimate as supportive documents positioning our application as a viable and achievable project.

If we were successful with Stream 1, a grant for 50% funding up to \$1,000,000 at an estimated cost of up to \$1,200,000, we would receive \$600,000.00 towards a critical renovation within the Walkerton Community Centre. The Municipality of Brockton has approximately \$75,000 in the Accessibility Reserve Fund and some of those funds could be used if the application was successful.

Staff continue to seek and apply for grant opportunities for the future of our aging arena. Staff will provide Council report with grant updates at a future date.

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 N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development N/A
- Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance N/A

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

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

Preliminary estimates based on the 2023 Facility Condition Assessments include:

System Name	Replacement Cost
Elevator Controls	\$15,000.96
Hydraulic Passenger Elevator	\$136,923.51
Total Estimated Replacement Cost	\$151,924.47
Design Plans and Construction Costs	\$250,000- \$1,000,000

Total design and construction costs cannot be determined until a design and preliminary construction schedule confirmed, however it would likely require a new steel shaft, reorienting the entry doors, ensuring a proper landing on the second floor and improved entrance spaces for the Walkerton Community Centre overall.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:



Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)