

Report to Council

Report Title: Successful Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Grant Application- Walkerton Ball Diamond Light Replacement

Prepared By: Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Department: Recreation

Date: September 9, 2025

Report Number: REC2025-18

File Number: C11REC, F11

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-18 – Successful Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Grant Application - Walkerton Ball Diamond Light Replacement, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward entering into a Grant Contract Agreement with Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Report:

Background:

The existing lighting system at the Walkerton Ball Diamond, installed over 26 years ago, has reached the end of its operational lifespan. A 2023 inspection revealed extensive deterioration, including rotting fixtures and the unavailability of replacement parts. To address this, a new lighting system featuring 750-watt LED lights has been proposed, which is expected to reduce annual operating costs by approximately \$1,734.

We are pleased to announce that our 2025 application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Capital Stream for funding has been successful. This achievement follows earlier setbacks in 2023 and 2024 and reflects the incorporation of valuable feedback from OTF program managers, as well as a strong emphasis on the societal benefits of promoting active lifestyles. The involvement of Grant Match further strengthened our application, which was submitted on March 5, 2025. The grant will provide essential financial support to replace the aging lighting system.

Analysis:

Staff received notice of our successful grant application funding our Ball Diamond Light Replacement project to the amount of \$127,395.15 + HST, which will cover the total estimated cost of project as determined by an updated electrical inspection. Our obligation is to fully expend the grant funds by the end of 2026.

This funding will facilitate the urgent and complete installation of new lighting fixtures, ensure uninterrupted use of the Walkerton Ball Diamond and secure a vibrant, physically active community environment for many years.

Staff have met with our Grant Program Manager as well as attended required information webinar to learn of the next steps to fulfill our successful application requirements. We are looking forward to starting this project in the fall of 2025 to be completed by the summer 2026.

Next Steps:

1. Immediate initiation of the planning phase, ensuring efficient use of the funding.
2. Procurement process including Bids and Tender process
3. Public Communication: Inform all main user groups and begin campaign to keep the community informed of timelines and anticipated benefits.
4. Regular updates to Council and grant program, ensuring transparent tracking of progress and expenditures.

Staff will ensure timely implementation of the project. Should any further updates or assistance from Council be necessary, Staff will provide immediate communication to ensure transparency and efficiency.

We appreciate the consistent support Council members have given to this project, recognizing its importance in our community.

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

OTF Funding to cover total project estimated cost of \$127,395.15 + HST.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer