



Subject: Reallocation of 2024 Capital Project Funding – Sport Fields

Report Number: RCP 24-038

Department: Recreation, Culture and Parks Department

Submitted by: Matt Johnson, Manager of Parks and Facilities

Meeting Type: Council Meeting

Meeting Date: Monday, August 12, 2024

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT report RCP 24-038 titled “Reallocation of 2024 Capital Budget Funding – Sport Fields” be received as information; and,
- B. THAT Council approve the reallocation of \$10,000 from capital #622 “Aluminum Benches/Bleachers” to the capital project #400 "Sports Fields Maintenance & Repairs"

BACKGROUND

In the 2024 Capital Budget, a sum of \$10,000 was approved for the purchase of new bleachers. This decision was based on the understanding that the majority of the existing bleachers were owned by the Fair Board, and there was a perceived need for additional seating around the baseball fields in Memorial Park. However, more spectators are now bringing their own seating to watch baseball instead of using the provided bleachers.

DISCUSSION

In early summer 2024, discussions were held with Tillsonburg Minor Ball (TMBI) regarding the need for additional bleachers. During these conversations, it was made clear that there was no interest from Tillsonburg baseball in acquiring more bleachers. Feedback from TMBI indicated that most of the existing bleachers were underutilized, with a growing preference among spectators to use lawn chairs instead.

Given this new information, the need for additional bleachers has been reevaluated. Subsequently, TMBI requested the removal of some existing bleachers from the hardball diamond, proposing their relocation to the Annandale ballfields where they could be more effectively used.

Further discussions with staff have concluded that the \$10,000 allocated for new bleachers could be better utilized by reinvesting it into improving the quality of our baseball fields, specifically those in and around Memorial Park. This reinvestment would

directly benefit the local baseball community by enhancing the playing conditions and overall experience at our diamonds.

CONSULTATION

The Director of Recreation, Culture and Parks, Executive members of the Tillsonburg Minor Baseball, Program & Facilities Registrar

FINANCIAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

Reallocating \$10,000 from the 2024 capital project \$622 "Aluminum Benches/Bleachers" to the "Sports Fields Maintenance & Repairs" will allow RCP to redirect funds originally intended for new bleachers towards improving the quality of the baseball fields in Memorial Park. This adjustment ensures that the funds are used in a manner that directly benefits the community and addresses current needs including, but not limited to storage upgrades, fencing repairs, warmup pitching area (Kiwanis) repairs, field maintenance and painting.

CORPORATE GOALS

- Lifestyle and amenities
- Customer service, communication and engagement
- Business attraction, retention and expansion
- Community growth
- Connectivity and transportation
- Not Applicable

Does this report relate to a specific strategic direction or project identified in the Community Strategic Plan? Please indicate section number and/or any priority projects identified in the plan.

Goal – Within the community, Tillsonburg will strive to offer residents the amenities, services and attractions they require to enjoy balanced lifestyles.

Strategic Direction – Update municipal sports facilities consistent with modern standards.

Priority Project – NA

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A – N/A