

DATE OF MEETING | APRIL 25, 2018 |

AUTHORED BY | KIRSTY MACDONALD, PARKS AND OPEN SPACE PLANNER |

**SUBJECT CAMBIE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK IMPROVEMENT REQUEST
 UNDER THE PARTNERS IN PARKS PROGRAM**

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To provide background information on the Partners in Parks (PIP) Program, to consider the request from the Cambie Neighbourhood Park Development Committee and to recommend Council approval. |

Recommendation

That the Parks, Recreation and Wellness Committee recommend that Council allocate \$25,000 from the 2018 Partners in Parks Program towards Cambie Neighbourhood Park improvements.

BACKGROUND

Cambie Park is a 1-hectare park located off Ninth Street in the Harewood neighbourhood of Nanaimo. This park was acquired in 2017 through subdivision. The park will soon be **zoned PRC-2** and was designated as such in anticipation of active recreation amenities. The park is situated in a rapidly growing area in Harewood. Cambie Park is located beside a farm and may be expanded with future subdivision in the neighbourhood.

After a community request to utilize the newly created green space, a Partners in Parks (PIP), start-up meeting was held in the summer of 2017 with strong support for improvements indicated. Requested improvements include a sport court, playground, shade trees, and a picnic area. Since the initial meeting, the neighbourhood has worked under the process of the Partners in Parks (PIP) Program and developed a proposal for consideration.

The PIP was initiated by the Council in 1982 to develop neighbourhood parks. Each year, the city has funds allocated for the program. Funds from the PIP program are approved and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Currently, sufficient funds remain to support this request for PIP program park development.

This park is just over a 5-minute walk (400m distance) from the closest playground at Kinette Evergreen Park and about a five-minute walk away from Park Avenue School.

If approved, a project account will be set aside for the Cambie Park improvements and all disbursements from the account will be City controlled. Fundraising proceeds can be added to the City account and the project will not proceed until the fundraising as outlined in the delegation's proposal is successful. |

OPTIONS

1. That Council allocate \$25,000 from the 2018 Partners in Parks (PIP) Program for Cambie Neighbourhood Park improvements.
 - **Budget Implication:** If the money is awarded, \$25,000 dollars will still remain unallocated in the PIP account for future groups to request in 2018.
 - **Policy Implication:** The PIP program is consistent with the City of Nanaimo's Corporate Strategic Plan which identifies community partnerships as a key method of making Nanaimo a great place to work and play.
 - **Engagement Implication:** Community engagement has been carried out under the PIP process.
2. That Council not allocate \$25,000 from the 2018 PIP Program for Cambie Neighbourhood Park improvements.
 - **Budget Implication:** \$50,000 dollars will remain unallocated in the PIP account for future groups to request in 2018.
 - **Engagement Implication:** Community engagement has been carried out under the PIP process.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Cambie Park is a new neighbourhood park created through subdivision in Harewood.
- Residents have requested improvements to Cambie Park through the Partners in Parks Program and \$25,000 to carry out the work in City funding.

ATTACHMENTS

Neighbourhood PIP Proposal

Submitted by:

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Concurrence by:

Richard Harding
Director, Parks and Recreation