

Steering Committee Minutes

Present: Jill, Melana, Bob, Marco, and Zac

Guests: Rich McAvan, Martin Balgavy

Date: June 29th 2012.

Examined three potential options for the construction of a new ramp leading to the washrooms on the upper level of the park.

Option #1 does not disturb any of the trees. This is the least expensive option, but is not direct route to the washrooms.

Option #2 involves a 5% slope for the ramp without damaging trees. There is no need for guardrails. The initial ramp route goes past the washrooms, but can be tightened in a revised plan. We could make the ramp steeper potentially too. Try to achieve 12 to 1. The initial option #2 stays away from the trees, but the revised *tighter* option will have to eliminate two trees. Endorsed by Rick.

Option #3 involves taking out two trees. This option is a little more contrived as it makes people walk up the ramp awkwardly and takes more space. Requires retaining walls for protecting trees. Ramp loops back to washroom and supported by guardrails. This is the most expensive option. This option is potentially more expensive than the money allocated to making this ramp. Construction of this option could be a slower process because removing trees *could* take a long time *for approvals*.

General discussion about the 3 options followed.

There is large variation in the costs of the various projects with about a \$30,000 difference between options.

We are receiving funding for this ramp from the AODA fund that pays for greater accessibility for people with disabilities. The stairs are being paid for out of SOGR Capital Funds. The closer the ramp connects to the washroom the better for accessibility it will be. This goal also provides us with more room in the middle of the park for future projects. There is some extra money for the second ramp, but it will more likely not happen until next summer. *MARCO to find out about availability of AODA funds for ramp in 2013.* The ramp will take about a month to construct. The latest the city wants to be there is the end of September. Need to be on site by September or October.

We will need to put pressure on forestry people to remove trees. Will take internal pressure to make ramp closer *and* to remove trees - MARCO to talk to Mike Layton. The trees in the way of the proposed ramp locations are non-native, and diseased, invasive species. We can add more trees to the playground area on the lower level to replace the destroyed trees. Potentially plant shrubs to replace *in that location, plus will need to replace each removed tree with 3 new trees in same park. Steering committee to recommend location.*

Rich wanted to know if grading can be changed from 3to1 to 2to1? Depends if Brian Green of City wants to deal with a 2to1 slope for maintenance.

Asphalt is cheapest option for the path (*approx \$55/sq. metre*) and the city will likely be advocating for asphalt. Concrete is another option for path surface. Concrete is the more durable material but much more expensive (*approx \$105/sq. metre*) and needs more maintenance. *Stamping, width, and borders were also discussed.*

Moisture could be a problem Fred Hamilton suffers from drainage issues. We will have to fix the drainage problem of Garrison creek. We could use a drywell to support drainage in the park.

We also discussed the potential of adding a Garrison creek medallion at the ramp location during construction. We will have to go through the heritage department to get approval. MARCO to ask the heritage department about the process of getting a Garrison creek

medallion for the park. We will need to inform Rich soon, how big the sign is for the blueprints if we are embedding it into the concrete on the ground. There are other ways to address heritage if we cannot get a medallion.

The group agreed to go forward on the amended option #2 for ramp construction. *Rich will provide a revised drawing.* The steering committee consent is enough to go forward with the project. *While community consultation is not officially required for moving forward, Steering Committee wants opportunity to notify via website and newsletter updates.*

Other comments / notes.

A curb cut will be required on east side of Roxton Ave where ramp intersects with street.

Rich will include in proposal use of Armour stone (limestone) on the steps instead of current timber solution.

Current steps would be removed and covered with sod

FoRRP asked if a section of the fence along Roxton could be removed where the sidewalk and park are at same grade to allow bikes, strollers to enter playground level directly -

MARCO to raise with Brian Green.

