



Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council

File No: 5280-03

Date: September 2, 2025

From: Stacey Schultz, Coordinator, Parks Planning

Subject: Grant Application for Kin Beach Tree Replacement Project

Purpose:

To request Council approval to submit a grant application through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund – Growing Canada's Community Canopies to support tree planting activities. The proposed application would fund a tree replacement planting project at Kin Beach Park.

Recommendation:

THAT Administration submit a grant application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC) program to support the Kin Beach Tree Replacement Project;

AND FURTHER, that Administration is authorized to manage the grant, execute any related agreements, and amend the 2026 budget contained in the 2026-2030 Financial Plan to reflect funding of up to \$30,000 from the Parks Reserve should the grant be successful.

Background:

a. Rationale:

Administration have identified an opportunity for grant funding offered by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC) initiative for tree planting activities. The grant will fund up to 50% of eligible costs for a tree planting project, with a minimum project cost of \$50,000. Staff propose a tree planting project at Kin Beach Park.

In spring of 2025, the majority of the mature Poplar trees, 22 in total along Kin Beach were removed following a comprehensive tree health risk assessment. The assessment found that the trees were nearing the end of their lifespan and were at high risk for storm damage and failure, which posed a potential hazard to people and property. The removal was a proactive measure to ensure public safety.

If the grant application and funding is secured, 59 new drought-tolerant shade trees will be planted throughout Kin Beach Park. Included as part of the grant, the existing irrigation infrastructure will be retrofitted where appropriate and water bags will be utilized to support the successful establishment and long-term health of the new trees.

b. Relevant Policy/Bylaw/Resolutions/Legislative Authority:

1. 2015 Parks Master Plan – Trees and Shrubs: Continue to promote and plant native, low maintenance plant species.
2. 2019 Climate Action Plan – Ecosystem Health & Biodiversity Goal 2: The urban forest is prepared and protected from climate change impacts, and the number of trees is increased.
3. 2023-2026 Council Strategic Plan – Recreation, Parks and Natural Areas: Maximize the accessibility and usability of parks in the City.

c. Council's Strategic Plan Alignment:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governance & Organizational Excellence | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Livability |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation, Parks & Natural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrancy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

d. Committee Recommendations:

n/a

Financial Implications:

The estimated project cost is \$60,000 with \$30,000 funded from the Parks Reserve (current balance: \$59,081) and \$30,000 from grant funding.

Alternatives & Implications:

Should Council not support the grant submission, or the City is unsuccessful, Operations and Planning will work together, and replanting would be phased over approximately 3 years.

Communication:

If successful, the project will be coordinated with the local school district and volunteer organizations for a community planting day, with updates on the City's social media platforms to bring awareness to the community benefits that the tree planting and increased canopy cover provides.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Kin Beach Tree Planting Plan

Reviewed by: Roy Nuriel, General Manager, City Planning
Reviewed by: Terry Barton, Director, Planning & Community Services
Reviewed by: Kevin Poole, Director, Corporate Administration
Approved by: Peter Weeber, Chief Administrative Officer