



P.O. Box 1749  
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**Item No. 16.2**  
**Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council**  
**January 10, 2019**

**TO:** Chair and Members of Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council  
Original Signed

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Denise Schofield, Director, Parks & Recreation  
Original Signed  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** January 7, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Splash Pad Proposal - Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad and Park

**ORIGIN**

On April 7, 2018, Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council motion:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Karsten  
**THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council refer the presentation from Dartmouth Splash Pad and Park for a staff report and return to Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council by June 30, 2018. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

June 7, 2018 Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council motion:

MOVED by Councillor Austin, seconded by Councillor Karsten  
**That Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council recommend that the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad + Park submit their splash pad proposal to staff for review and recommendation to Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Halifax Regional Municipal Charter*, sections 61, 63, and specifically 79(1)(k), (x), and (ah):

- 79(1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for:
- (k) recreational programs;
  - (x) lands and buildings required for a municipal purpose;
  - (ah) playgrounds, trails, including trails developed, operated or maintained pursuant to an agreement made under clause 73(c), bicycle paths, swimming pools, ice arenas and other recreational facilities.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Direct staff to complete a technical analysis of the Dartmouth Commons site (skate board park, recreation area) to determine the suitability of the location for a Regional Splash Pad as per the preliminary analysis and, if necessary, investigate alternative location(s); and
2. Direct staff to work with the Dartmouth Splash Pad Community group to assist with the securing of funding for the project.

## **BACKGROUND**

In April 2018, the Friends of the Dartmouth Splash Pad (FDSP) made an unsolicited presentation to the Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council (HEMDCC) for a splash pad to be located at Kiwanis Grahams Grove Park. In June 2018, HEMDCC recommended that FDSP submit their proposal to staff for review and recommendation to HEMDCC (see Attachment 1 for proposal submitted by FDSP).

The FDSP is a community lead initiative for a regional splash pad project in Dartmouth at the Kiwanis Graham's Grove Park. A partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth (KCD) will help raise funds to support this project. The community group proposed that this project be considered as part of Halifax Regional Council's 2019/20 capital funding allocations with the goal to have the splash pad operational for summer of 2020. This proposal is not currently identified in the 10-year capital plan.

The community group proposal indicates fundraising of \$150,000 towards the total overall cost of the project which they have estimated to be \$450,000.

The community group is proposing a splash pad that would serve as a regional size facility for all residents of the Halifax region with a focus on the communities within Harbour East – Marine Drive. The community group has recommended Graham's Grove Park as their chosen site and provided Brownlow Park and Dartmouth Common as alternative sites.

A regional splash pad would be in the 3200-square foot range (80' x 50' in oval shape) with strategically spaced spray features and zones, plus some high capacity "events", which would increase the number of participants playing at once. A basic guide would accommodate 125 to 135 users at once, with additional users in dry areas surrounding the splash pad and park.

In 2014, HRM partnered with the Kinsmen Club of Sackville on a community led initiative for the development of a splash pad. The total cost of the project was \$501,000, which included: \$92,000 in fundraising; \$25,000 donated by the Kinsman Club of Sackville; \$50,000 in donated material; \$167,000 in Provincial funding; and \$167,000 in municipal funding.

There are also operating costs associated with splash pads that would need to be absorbed by the Municipality. Depending on the design of the splash pad, the annual operating costs for a community type facility can run in the range of \$25,000 to \$100,000. The operating costs for a regional type facility would likely be higher.

In February 2017, Regional Council approved the Community Facility Master Plan 2 (CFMP2) which directed staff to develop a Long-Term Aquatic Strategy. The development of this Strategy includes an assessment of splash pads, and is forthcoming (estimated completion is early 2019).

In December 2017, Regional Council directed staff to include a new multi-use building at Kiwanis Grahams Grove Park for consideration in the 2019/20 capital budget process to be prioritized against other capital priorities, with staff further directed to return to Regional Council to confirm funding once the building design

is confirmed. Work on the design and negotiations with the Kinsman is ongoing, with staff expecting to return to Regional Council in early 2019.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff's review of the proposal is based upon an early review of the information being developed in the Long-Term Aquatic Strategy. This has been used to:

- (1) Determine the need for a splash pad in Dartmouth; and
- (2) Evaluate potential sites using criteria that are being developed in the Long-Term Aquatic Strategy.

### Long Term Aquatic Strategy

The purpose of the Long-Term Aquatic Strategy is to provide a broad-based overview of the entire aquatic service delivery system and identify gaps, opportunities and priorities, while providing strategic approaches and actions to inform facility planning over a 15-year timeframe. Its scope includes a comprehensive range of aquatic facilities including splash pads. The Long-Term Aquatic Strategy will be presented to Regional Council in early 2019.

### Current Context

The Halifax region currently has (6) six splash pads. They include the Halifax Central Common; George Dixon Recreation Centre; Isleville Street Playground; Westmount Playing Round; Bayer's Westwood Playground; and Sackville Kinsmen Park. The concentration of splash pads on the peninsula of Halifax is due to there being no supervised beach provision in that area. There are no splash pads currently located in Dartmouth.

## **Staff Evaluation of the Proposed Sites**

### Summary of Splash Pad Criteria

A review of the three proposed Dartmouth locations: Kiwanis Grahams Grove, Brownlow Park, Dartmouth Common (skatepark and the former museum site) has been completed with details outlined in Attachment 2. An overview of the findings is as follows:

**Kiwanis Graham's Grove Park** - has some positive attributes such as washrooms and a canteen. However, the site has numerous physical constraints, including watercourse setbacks, required servicing access for events and boating, steep slopes, suspected infilled areas, and impact to mature trees. In addition, there is limited parking on the site and it is separated from residential areas by collector and arterial roads, thereby limiting walking to the site. Therefore, it is not recommended for a regional splash pad.

**Brownlow Park** - is not a favourable location given its proximity to the guarded beach at Penhorn Lake, the lack of free-draining open space, and limited space in the playground area to co-locate a splash facility.

**Dartmouth Common (former Museum site)** - although the former museum site on the Dartmouth Common has the spatial ability to accommodate a splash pad and is reasonably flat with on-site parking, the facility would be incompatible with the Dartmouth Common Masterplan (2010), which designates this part of the Common a passive recreational open space area. The location is also disconnected from the recreation amenities in the skatepark area. Although it is not recommended, staff has assessed this site to provide context.

**Dartmouth Common (skatepark area)** - is the most compatible location for a new splash pad facility and is the recommended location for the following reasons:

- it is designated as an active recreational open space area within the Dartmouth Common Masterplan (2010);
- it would be collocated with existing recreation infrastructure;
- it is centrally located within Dartmouth;
- it is close to a major transit terminal; and
- it is adjacent to the Dartmouth Sportsplex.

All evaluated locations serve a similar number of 0-10-year old's, but the Dartmouth Common catchment area (2km) also serves a population whose average household income falls below the middle-income level. Within this site, some realignment or reconfiguration of the existing recreation amenities, such as the volleyball court may be required.

While the FODSP had proposed siting a splash pad at the Grahams Grove site, based on the analysis, it is not an optimal location and therefore not recommended. Based on the preliminary analysis, one of the alternate sites proposed by the group does appear to have merit for consideration. Therefore, it is recommended that staff undertake a detailed technical analysis of that site, including site configuration, cost estimates and consultation with the community. It is further recommended that if the site is determined to not be feasible through the detailed technical analysis, that staff be directed to scope and explore other sites for a splash pad in the area.

FODSP Proposed Budget

The Community's proposal provides a cost estimate and includes a fundraising component, but costs as they relate to each site have not been assessed or verified by staff.

<b>ESTIMATED EXPENSES</b>	
Splash pad supply and install	\$231, 727
Site Amenities supply and install	\$130, 565
Public Art	\$12, 000
Site Preparation and finish landscaping	\$50, 000
Contingency	\$25, 708
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED COST</b>	<b>\$450,000</b>

<b>ESTIMATED REVENUE</b>	
Friends of the Dartmouth Splash pad, Includes: fundraising, grants, community/corporate sponsorship, resident contributions	\$150,000
Halifax Regional Municipality	\$300,000
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$450,000</b>

As noted, this project is not currently included in the current 10-year proposed capital budget. However, the FODSP proposal outlines an expectation of \$300,000 in HRM funding. Upon completion of the technical analysis, staff would return to Regional Council with an update on fundraising for the project, as well as any recommended municipal funding for Council's consideration. There would also be operating implications associated with the proposed installation of a splash pad which would be impacted by the project scope and would be included for Regional Council's consideration.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications associated with this report. Proposed municipal funding and financial implications will be outlined in the future staff report upon completion of the technical site analysis and detailed cost estimates.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no extraordinary risks associated with this report. The risks rate moderate. There are risks associated with not evaluating additional locations or proceeding without a full technical evaluation or site planning process for Dartmouth Commons site. The recommendations outlined in this report help to mitigate these risks.

There is a risk that the Friends of the Dartmouth Splash Pad may not be successful in their fundraising efforts.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The presentation and proposal are being lead by the community group which has conducted some engagement as outlined in their proposal. Broader public engagement would be completed as part of the technical site analysis.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are environmental considerations with the proposed siting of a splashpad at Kiwanis Grahams Grove where it is on a watercourse and setbacks are required at this site. There are fewer implications of the recommended site, however, careful consideration needs to be given to the type of operating system and the impacts on water consumption.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Alternative 1: HEMDCC could recommend that Regional Council direct staff not to proceed with assessing any sites for splash pads at this time.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: The Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad and Park Proposal

Attachment 2: Splash Pad site criteria review for Kiwanis Graham's Grove, Brownlow Park and the Dartmouth Commons

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: John E. Henry, Manager, Aquatics, Active Living & Inclusions Services 902.222.3854

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**Proposal:**

# **Dartmouth Splashpad**

July 5, 2018

**Presented by:**

Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad

**In partnership with:**



**Kiwanis**<sup>®</sup>  
CLUB OF DARTMOUTH

# A VOLUNTEER, COMMUNITY-LED INITIATIVE TO BRING A REGIONAL SPLASHPAD RECREATION AREA TO GRAHAM'S GROVE PARK, DARTMOUTH

Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad in partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth are a community group with a vision to bring a regional Splashpad recreation facility to **Graham's Grove Park** in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

We propose this project be considered as part of Halifax Regional Council's 2019/20 capital funding allocations with the goal to have the Splashpad operational for **summer of 2020**.

**Inclusive | Accessible | Safe | Eco-friendly | PLAY!**



The Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad was formed in July 2017 and is comprised of volunteer residents who are also parents and share a common passion for bringing a **regional** Splashpad to Dartmouth.

Our community partner, the **Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth**, is registered not-for-profit society and registered charity, committed to supporting children and young adults, as well as responding to individual community needs.

### What is a Splashpad?

A Splashpad is a zero depth, aquatic recreation area that combines flowing, misting, spraying, jetting and splashing water. The result is fun for youth of all ages with added benefits of enhancing physical, social, sensory and cognitive development.

As a **regional** Splashpad – our vision is that this facility will be a gathering area that includes picnic and shade structures to complement existing park amenities, including planned change and washroom facilities.

### We want to BRING BACK PLAY!

Families need play. Water play promotes happier families and more closely-knit communities. We want to create a community gathering place for neighbors, where children can engage in free play, parents can connect, and neighbors can build or strengthen ties with each other.

We want to create a community gathering place that is clean and safe. We want this community hub to be inclusive and accessible to everyone, including to those with socioeconomic barriers and also for citizens who live in communities where opportunities for making these kinds of social connections are fewer. We believe that this can be achieved in this particular location with multiple transit and walking access options.

**Play opportunities** foster thriving communities. **Play value** is crucial to delivering a fun, sustainable, safe water play option.

### Investment Summary:

Upon consultation with industry, supply and functional install estimate of the proposed Splashpad including Splashpad, site amenities, landscaping and a public art component is **\$450,000**.

This does not include washroom or change facilities.

Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad are committed to engaging community, local businesses, corporations and government partners to raise **\$150,000** towards this project. *Please see Budget & Financial Considerations section.*

## Location Summary:

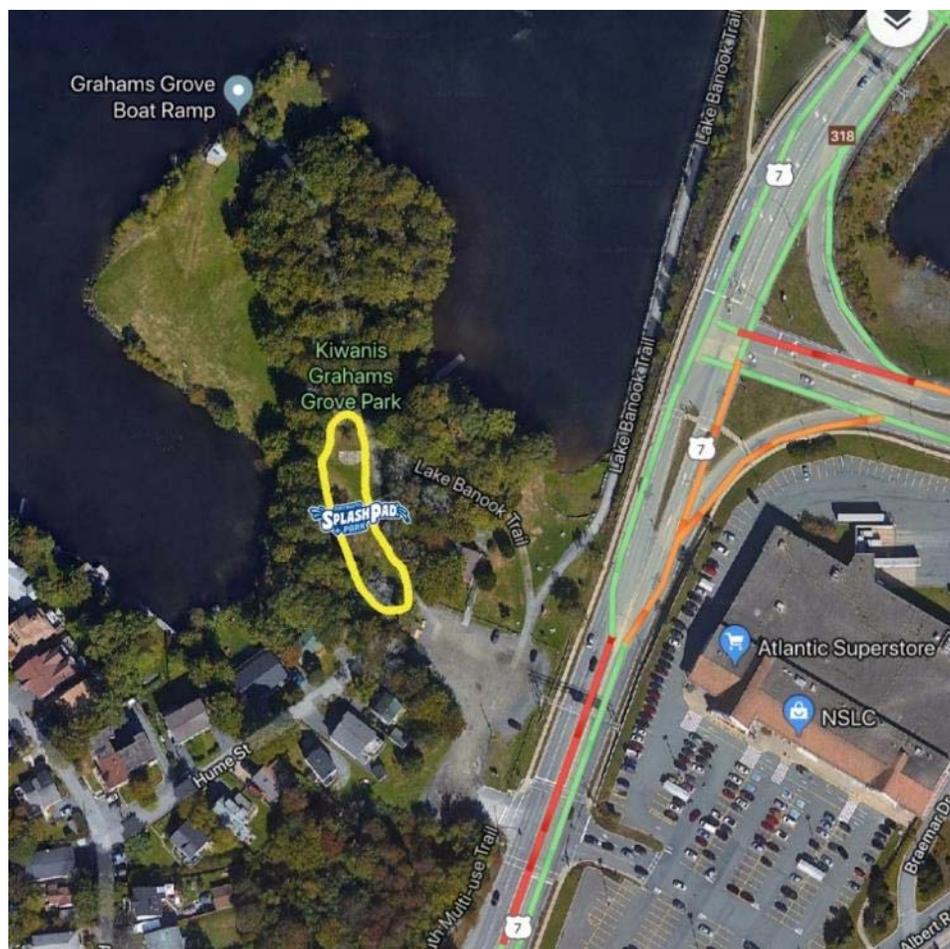
Although there are many possible “neighbourhood” park locations that would be suitable for a small scale Splashpad, there were fewer options suggested that aligned with our desire to be centrally located in the middle of Harbour East – Marine Drive and had the available space in an existing greater Halifax owned park that could accommodate a regional scale Splashpad.

With the formalization of a partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth, was an opportunity to consider integration with other proposed regional investments at **Graham’s Grove Park**.

Although discussed in more detail within our proposal, perhaps the most significant consideration endorsing Graham’s Grove Park is the opportunity to coordinate with Halifax Park’s and Recreation plans for a new building that includes washroom & change facilities at that location.

The opportunity to imagine bigger potential for Graham’s Grove Park and the **efficiency and cost savings** of coordinating site excavation and utility work lowers costs for Halifax Park’s and Recreation and tax payers as well as minimizing park closure and disruption is very attractive.

*Please see Proposed Location section for more detail.*



## Our Vision

Children grow through play in so many ways. We want to **BRING BACK PLAY!**

### **INCLUSIVE**

Encourage physical, functional and social development in children of **ALL ages & abilities**.

### **SAFE**

Zero-depth water space to minimize risk. Located in a public, high visibility common area - near amenities and existing park land. **Consistent water quality** for **safe** outdoor aquatic recreation.

### **ACCESSIBLE**

Centrally located in the **Harbour East – Marine Drive** region and accessible by foot, bike, public transit or auto.

### **ECO-FRIENDLY**

Capture & repurpose water management technology that **reduces waste** and can provide water to local agriculture, community gardens or other “grey water” needs.

### **PLAY!**

**Unscripted free play** to encourage children to create their own experiences. We want to create a deeper kind of play that:

Promotes **SOCIAL play**, so children interact with each other.

Encourages **DISCOVERY play**, so children explore the worlds of cause and effect.

Prioritizes **INCLUSIVE play**, so people of all ages and abilities can join in.

## Project Description

A Splashpad is a dynamic, zero-depth aquatic play area (no accumulation of water) that combines flowing, misting, spraying, splashing and jetting.

Not only is a Splashpad fun and refreshing on a hot summers day, but there are numerous other benefits that include physical, social, sensory and cognitive enhancements. Splashpads are inclusive to a wide range of ages and accommodate all abilities, including those with walking aids or wheelchairs.

The park that we envision will accommodate sun safety with natural and constructed shade. It will also offer the opportunity to reduce vehicle transportation, offering transit, bike and walking trails as a healthier alternative.

A regional aquatic play area in **Graham's Grove Park** can be a place where the community can meet and get to know our neighbours.



## Statement of Need

The Halifax region currently has (6) six Splashpads for a population of 400,000 people. They include the Halifax Central Common, George Dixon Recreation Centre, Isleville Street Playground, Westmount Playing round, Bayer's Westwood Playground, and Sackville Kinsmen Park.

**There are no Splashpads currently located in Dartmouth or the Harbour East regional district.**

We currently have a Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad Facebook page with over 1000+ actively engaged members who are excited about the prospect of bringing a facility of this nature to Dartmouth.

As we engaged with the community, common themes have helped to define our vision:

- **INCLUSIVE** to encourage physical, functional and social development in children of all abilities. Access to water play in Dartmouth for those with mobility challenges is limited.

Regardless if one uses a wheelchair, walking aid, etc, our goal would be that everyone will have access to the Splashpad. This facility would be strategically and purposely designed to bring all ages and abilities together.

- **ACCESSIBLE** to existing bike a walkway network. Located in a central location to Harbour East – Marine Drive, near current transit infrastructure and where opportunity for future enhanced transit is possible. On regional road infrastructure and close to existing neighbourhoods for easy access and minimizing traffic congestion in a residential community.
- **SAFE** for play as a zero-depth water space to minimize risk and Halifax Park's and Recreation liability, located in a public, high visibility common area near existing amenities.
- **ECO-FRIENDLY** using innovative repurpose water management technology that reduces water waste and may provide water to local agriculture, community gardens, Halifax fire and maintenance vehicle replenishment.

The opportunity also exists to explore repurposing Splashpad water to create a water current in the Graham's Grove Park cove beach area to move unsafe, stagnant water which prevents consistent, safe water access.

- **PLAY!** Unscripted free play to encourage children to create their own experiences. We want to create a deeper kind of play that promotes SOCIAL play, so children interact with each other. Encourage DISCOVERY play, so children explore the worlds of cause and effect and prioritize INCLUSIVE play, so people of all ages and abilities can join in.



## Health and Wellness

Nova Scotia has the **second highest** prevalence of **obesity** and **Type 2 Diabetes** in all of Canada.

Unfortunately, obesity rates of Canadian children and youth have tripled in the last 30 years. We know that obese children have a high chance of remaining obese as adults.

Obese children are more likely to develop chronic health conditions such as high blood pressure and Type 2 Diabetes. They are also at risk for low self-esteem, negative body image and depression.

Maintaining a healthy weight, involves healthy eating as well as adopting a physically active lifestyle. **It is recommended that children and teenagers should obtain 60 minutes of physical activity per day.** At present only 9% of Canadian children 5-17 meet this requirement.



Our communities can help our children and their families stay healthy by offering low cost, accessible alternatives to sedentary activities such as video games or watching television. Our communities can also encourage youth and families to reduce their motorized transportation.

A Splashpad in Dartmouth will provide family centred recreation, physical activity for all ages. Children will have the opportunity to learn new skills and participate in unscripted free-play. This style of recreation provides a comfortable exercise opportunity for those who shy away from competition.

Splashpads are inclusive to a wide range of ages and accommodate all abilities, including those with walking aids or wheelchairs. Graham's Grove Park will accommodate sun safety with natural and constructed shade. It will also offer the opportunity to reduce vehicle transportation, using transit, bike and walking trails as healthier alternatives and will offer access to water in an area that water play opportunities can be at times limited due to lake water quality issues.

*\*\*Source for stats on graphics: Canadian Health Measures Survey*



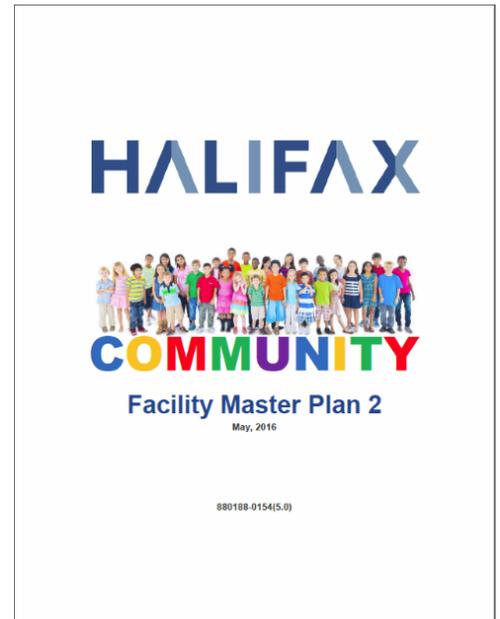
## Halifax Community Facility Master Plan 2 (CFMP2)

The May 2016 **Halifax Regional Municipality Facility Master Plan 2 (CFMP2)** prepared by Colliers International provides direct reference to the value of Splashpad's and recreation as well as supporting the needs identified in this proposal.

### KEY FINDINGS (referenced from the report):

The research and consultation identified how Halifax is performing, what community members are concerned about, and which opportunities for improvement should be implemented in the short, medium and long-term. CFMP2 provides recommendations to address the identified needs, including: Increased affordability for programs and facility rentals, especially for low income families and seniors.

The Goals and Objectives of CFMP2 acknowledge HRM's philosophy of service provision to its citizens and address the gaps that exist between this philosophy and current practice.



**Diversity & Inclusion:** *Enable and promote **access for all** by helping to attract a diversity of users and conserving, promoting and incorporating culture. Address barriers related to factors such as age, gender, sexual orientation, race, income, ability and beliefs.*

### **INFORMAL RECREATION:**

*The broadening definition of recreation emphasizes the need to assess the Facilities that support a wide range of **informal activities**, such as walking, swimming and cycling. Informal activities involve individuals or small groups participating, often **near their home** and at the **most convenient time**. It also includes activities that can be **done as a family** and **across generations**. The social opportunities of recreation should not be overlooked. According to Statistics Canada, epidemiological studies suggest that social activities may be particularly important for older adults. Possible health benefits include **reduced risk of mortality, disability and depression**, and better cognitive health, self-rated health and health-related behaviours.*

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

*Many of HRM's Facilities lack the benefits of **universal design**. While new Facilities (<20 years old) tend to be compliant with current requirements, many facilities including **playgrounds are not accessible** to people with different abilities and **those using wheelchairs**, for example. Adaptation is increasingly important for an aging population. Some of HRM's Facilities will require significant upgrades to meet current accessibility standards.*

*Better social connections are provided by removing social, cultural and economic barriers to use of Facilities, **making them more inclusive**.*

### **ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION:**

*Halifax's Active Transportation Priorities Plan highlights the need to locate HRM's facilities, such as recreation centres and libraries, on **walkable, mixed-use areas, well served by transit**.*

## Our Progress

The Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad leadership team was formed in July 2017 and is comprised of volunteer residents who are parents and share a common passion for bringing a **regional** Splashpad to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

As a group of volunteers we have:

- Assembled a committed community leadership team including business leaders with complementary backgrounds.
- Formalized a partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth service club to support administrative functions and as a vehicle to fundraise as a registered not for profit society.
- Engaged with community on location suggestions and to articulate goals and set a vision of what a regional Splashpad could be for Harbour East – Marine Drive.
- Established an email database of volunteers & supporters.
- Established social media network on Facebook (1000+ followers) and launched a website: [www.dartmouthsplashpad.ca](http://www.dartmouthsplashpad.ca)
- Engaged marketing & communication support from industry with Halifax based m5 Communications.
- Consulted with industry and other community groups to better understand Splashpad technologies, best practices and equipment.
- Engaged additional community service clubs to investigate interest in partnerships and involvement.
- Initiated dialogue with possible corporate philanthropic partners.
- Presented to and secured Harbour East - Marine Drive community council's support for a municipal staff report on Splashpad potential.
- Collaboration with Halifax Park's and Recreation.

## Citizen Lead

The “Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad” are a community lead initiative collaborating to bring a Harbour East – Marine Drive regional Splashpad recreation area to Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Our volunteer team is comprised of community leaders and entrepreneurs who are passionate about our community and committed to bringing a Splashpad to Dartmouth.



**Rick Mayuk**  
Partnerships &  
Community Engagement



**Sarah Colgan**  
Fundraising &  
Health and Wellness



**Tyler MacLeod**  
Marketing &  
Communications



**Cheryl Stewart-Walsh**  
Government &  
Corporate Liaison



**Tim Rissesco**  
Community Liaison



**Angela Walker**  
Legal & Strategy



**Art Hood**  
Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth  
& Community Liaison



**Andrew Gibb**  
Engineering, Design &  
Construction

## Service Club Partnership & Support

Supporting the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad's administrative functions as a vehicle to fundraise as a registered not-for-profit society is the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth service club.



The Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth (KCD) is a registered charity and regional chapter of Kiwanis International, a global volunteer organization. Kiwanis clubs are established in more than 80 countries worldwide and are dedicated to supporting children and young adults, as well as responding to individual community needs. Since KCD was chartered in 1943, the organization has developed a variety of annual fundraising events for charitable reinvestment in the Dartmouth community. Historically, the organization has made major contributions to the construction of parks and playgrounds, including the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Park playground and Kiwanis Sullivan's Pond Fountain.



# Kiwanis®

**Club of Dartmouth**  
PO Box 321  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
B2Y 3Y5

[www.kiwanisdartmouth.org](http://www.kiwanisdartmouth.org)

31 May 2018

Rick Mayuk  
Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad

Rick,  
I thank you and Sarah for the informative presentation that you made to the Club members on 14 May about your vision for a splashpad in Dartmouth. Your goals of engaging the children of the Dartmouth Community in a safe, accessible, and inclusive outdoor activity very much match the mission of Kiwanis which is to "empower communities to improve the world by making lasting differences in the lives of children".

The Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth, at our Club meeting on 26 May, passed a motion to support the Friends of Dartmouth Splashpad in their effort to bring a splashpad to Harbour East and to support Grahams Grove Park as the preferred location.

The Club believes there is an opportunity to synchronize this project with the proposed building at Grahams Grove to take advantage of construction savings, efficiencies, and minimize disruption to the park by having both projects, although independent, potentially developed at the same time.

The Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth agrees to have a member join the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad Leadership team and to give administrative support through our Charitable Foundation to the team's fundraising initiative.

We look forward to working with the Friends of Dartmouth Splashpad to make this vision a reality for the Dartmouth Community.



Ken Wilkie  
President  
Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth

## Ideal Location Criteria

Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad consulted with Harbour East – Marine Drive communities on possible locations. We are passionate that this project be **regional** and service as many citizens as possible, not just one district or community.

Although there is a clear desire from individual neighbourhood citizens advocating for a small scale Splashpad be added to their local park, many of these locations were not ideal for a larger regional size Splashpad.

Our **criteria** and the **characteristics** of what we were looking for in a location **that would accommodate a regional** Splashpad are:

1. Halifax region owned land, ideally a current greater Halifax park that was already disturbed from natural vegetation, underdeveloped to allows the park to be re-purposed without disturbing mature trees or disrupting natural environment
2. Established walking and biking paths already in place or approved by HALIFAX connecting the park to access
3. Located centrally within Harbour East – Marine Drive (not just central within one district)
4. Either within or near established residential neighbourhoods where families already live
5. On or near public transit routes and a transit transfer hub
6. Mature trees to serve as shade and wind break, land elevation that minimizes excavation and was naturally able to accommodate active recreation, natural seating and picnic activities
7. Existing washroom and change room access
8. If on water (lake/ocean), preference for water that is either not always safe for consistent public swimming or not accessible.

The following locations became possible sites to propose:

- Brownlow Park (Penhorn Mall area)
- Dartmouth Commons West (upper baseball diamonds)
- Graham's Grove Park



Brownlow Park (Penhorn Mall)



Dartmouth Commons West



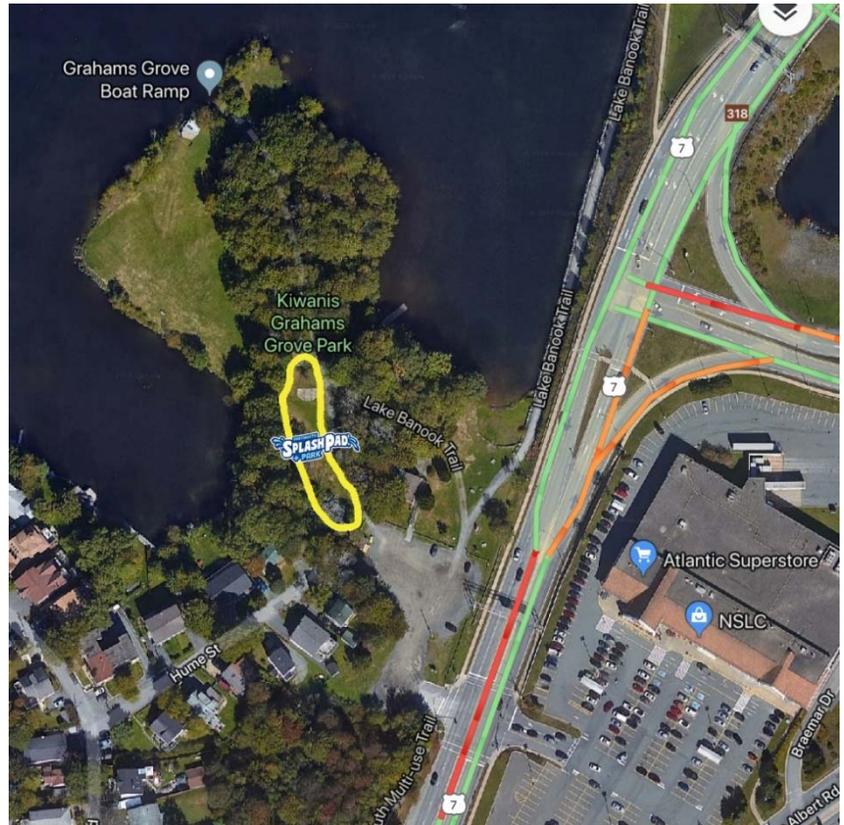
Graham's Grove Park

## Proposed Location: Graham's Grove Park

Although a single location did not meet all of our criteria, the location that overall aligned best and offered the most value to the largest citizen base was **Graham's Grove Park**.

- 5.43+ acres Halifax region owned park that has mature tree shade surrounding a previously developed area (grass & abandoned concrete pad). The specific area of this park is under developed & under used.
- Although it is “located on water”, **poor water quality** in Lake Banook around this park, specifically the cove along Lake Banook Trail/Prince Albert Road that has a legacy beach prevents consistent safe lake swimming - *similar to First Lake in Sackville* where the Kinsmen Splashpad is located. The un-developed and under maintained beach areas surrounding Graham's Grove Park are not accessible preventing access to free water play for individuals of all abilities.
- Geographically, Graham's Grove Park is regionally central in Harbour East – Marine Drive. Located on **main road access** (Circumferential Highway), across the street from Atlantic Superstore & next to Mic Mac Mall that has access to the park via a **paved trail**. Mic Mac Mall is also a **district transit hub**.
- Graham's Grove Park is in middle of multiple residential neighbourhoods and within the boundary of the proposed **Centre Plan** that identifies the area for proposed high density living.
  - In reference to HALIFAX's 2016 **CFMP2 (Community Facility Master Plan 2)** the location of recreation facilities can have an economic benefit.

*Increasingly, recreation and community Facilities are seen as an important support for economic development in communities. Community Facilities have the potential to attract growth because they provide a more complete range of services.*



## Graham's Grove Park proposed canteen/building alignment opportunity

A challenge is that few suitable regional sites have existing washroom and change room facilities available.

Perhaps the most significant consideration is the current opportunity for a potential new building with washroom & change facilities proposed at Graham's Grove Park by Halifax Park's and Recreation.

Washroom and change room facilities would be an additional requirement for any location with a Splashpad. The cost to add these facilities significantly increases a total Splashpad cost. We propose leveraging existing or proposed infrastructure where available.

**Please see HALIFAX Staff Report: Item No. 14.1.10 dated December 5, 2017.**

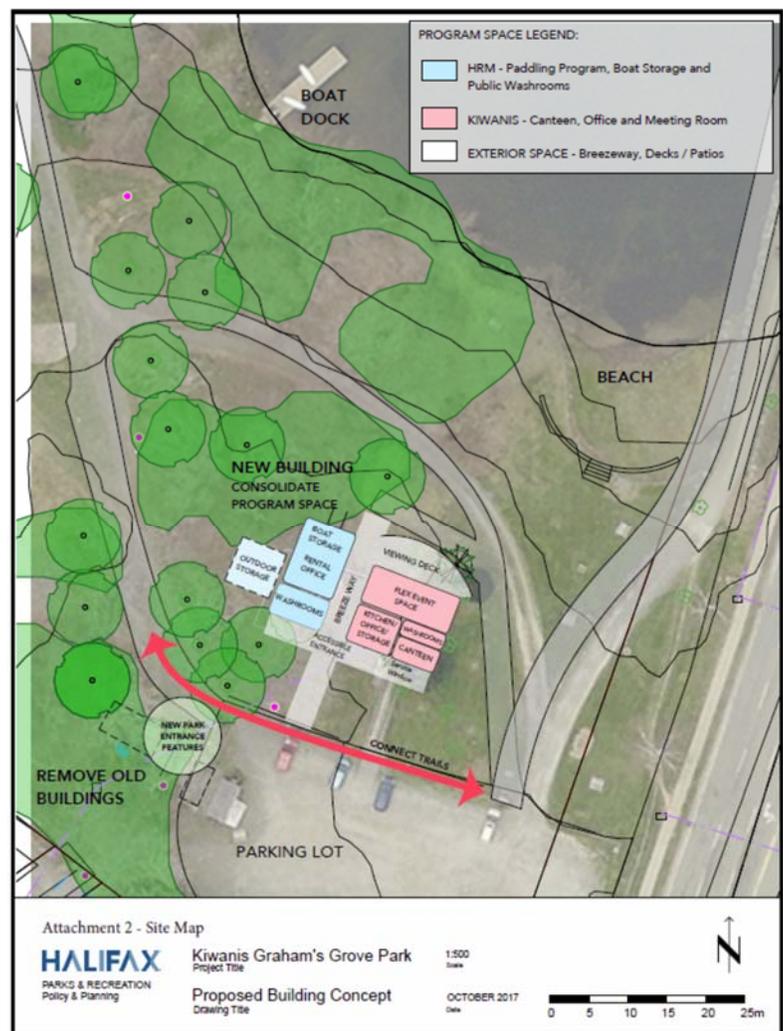
<https://www.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/regional-council/171212rc14110.pdf>

A challenge Graham's Grove Park does potentially raise is parking directly at the park for vehicles. Although the park is located near large retail business parking lots that commonly have availability, these are located on private land. Without modification, we estimate the current Graham's Grove Park parking lot may accommodate up to 60 vehicles. With planning or community partnerships there may be opportunity to increase availability.

**This concern was also raised in Halifax Staff Report Item No. 14.1.10.** *"The current parking lot has periods of concern; therefore, any plan would require maximization of the available parking spaces. There are also ongoing concerns related to access to the site during scheduled events which restricts park usage. However, staff has reviewed current event booking procedures in order to minimize any impact to park use during events."*

If the proposed Graham's Grove Park building project proceeds the site will be excavated with water & utilities lines adjusted.

**We believe this site offers the opportunity to look at a bigger potential for this park and take advantage of the efficiency and cost savings of doing the work at the same time offers a savings to Greater Halifax and tax payers.**



## Graham's Grove Park Cove stale water

Although it is “located on water”, **poor water quality** in Lake Banook around Graham's Grove Park, specifically the cove along Lake Banook Trail/Prince Albert prevents consistent safe lake swimming - *similar to First Lake in Sackville* where the **Kinsmen Splashpad** is located.

The un-developed and under maintained beach areas surrounding Graham's Grove Park are **not accessible** preventing access to free water play for individuals of all abilities.

Environmental opportunities for water quality improvement in the boat launch and beach cove may be possible by re-purposing de-chlorinated discharge water from the Splashpad.

Upon filtration of any solid materials and de-chlorinating the water to “grey water” it may be used to create a water current in the stale water area that could help offer consistent safe water play.

This concept was introduced by industry through our consultations and would need further review and study as to its feasibility.



## Inclusive Play Design

At its core, we are passionate about inclusive play, regardless of a child’s age or ability.

Inclusive play design was used as our framework. Our proposed design is accessible to everyone. Inclusive play design encourages the physical, functional and social development of a child.

Strategically placed “zones” with age appropriate spray features that are simple in use to encourage the physical, functional and social development of a child.

As water is a tactile experience, properties inherent to water - pressure, flow and volume - as well as its ability to reflect color, provide additional sensory-rich experiences in play were integrated.

By touching, tipping and spinning water features throughout the environment, children develop senses and are able to interpret and integrate with others in their own way and at their own pace. A variety of water effects maintain interest as well as keeps and encourages movement on the Splashpad.

We want to achieve team and interactive play by incorporating different features which offer opportunities for team work and the anticipation of play through the sequencing of spray features.



### SINGLE USER

Single user water play products require more space per user and tend to lower overall capacity and reduce user flow.



### MULTI-USER

Multi-user water play products attract tight groups, adding a new dynamic to the fun and increasing overall capacity.



### INTERACTIVES

Interactive water play products fall somewhere in between as they promote team work and collaboration.

## Regional Footprint

We are proposing a Splashpad that would serve as a **regional size facility** for all residents of Halifax region with focus on the communities within Harbour East – Marine Drive.

A regional Splashpad in the **3200 square foot** range (80’ x 50’ in oval shape) with strategically spaced spray features and zones, plus some high capacity “events”, will all contribute to increase the number of participants playing at once.

### CAPACITY GUIDE



A basic guide would suggest that the proposed design would accommodate **125 to 135 users** at once with additional users in dry areas surrounding the Splashpad and park.

## Public Art & Cultural Component

Important to the community and the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad is including from a design aspect public art within the park that compliments both the use of the Splashpad (nautical/water play) and pays tribute to the cultural, historical and current aspects of the area.

In reference to Halifax’s 2016 **CFMP2 (Community Facility Master Plan 2)**:

- **ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE**

*The benchmarking conducted for this study identified several trends in recreation. A broad definition of recreation includes art, culture and heritage as activities that can be supported as an integral programming element within community Facilities. Supporting these activities can build a creative community that has both recreational and employment benefits.*

*Arts, culture and heritage activities appeal to all age ranges from youth to seniors and can be adapted to a wide range of spaces in HRM’s Facilities. Opportunities for incorporating arts and culture in community Facilities include art exhibitions, public art, performance space, visual and performance art lessons, programming and showcases, amongst others.*

## Proposed Footprint & Technical Component “Spray Features”

### Footprint:

- Total Area: 3136 sq ft (291 sq meter)
- Spray Area: 2197 sq ft (204 sq meter)

### Zones (3):

- Toddler Bay, Family Bay & Teen Bay

### Water use:

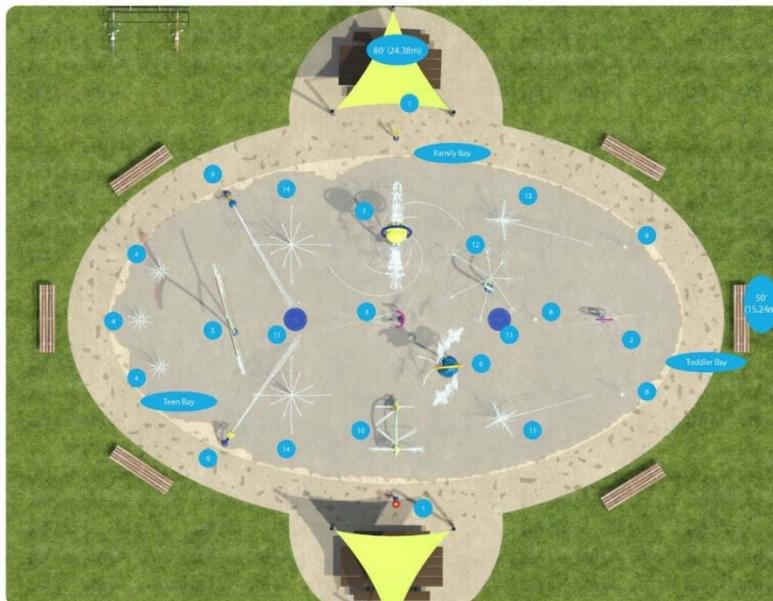
- 134 GPM (507.2 LMP)

#### SPLASHPAD COMPONENTS

REF	PRODUCT	QTY	GPM	LPM
1	Activator N°1 VOR 612	2	0	0
2	Bamboo Ring VOR 7787	1	2	7.6
3	Bamboo Twin Cannon VOR 7706	1	3.5	13.2
4	Geysier VOR 301	3	13.5	51.1
5	Helico VOR 7790	1	17	64.3
6	Hello N°5 VOR 7240	1	16.5	62.5
7	Hello N°6 VOR 7251	1	13	49.2
8	Jet Stream N°1 VOR 7812	3	7.5	28.4
9	Luna Cannon N°1 VOR 7235	2	13	49.2
10	Luna N°1 VOR 7230	1	14.5	54.9
11	Playsafe Drain N°1 VOR 1001.4000	2	0	0
12	Silhouette N°5 VOR 7777	1	5.5	20.8
13	Sparkle N°2 VOR 323	2	10	37.9
14	Water Bloom N°1 VOR 322	2	18	68.1
TOTAL WATER FLOW		QTY	GPM	LPM
		23	134.0	507.2



Dartmouth SplashPad+Park- Conceptual Design.

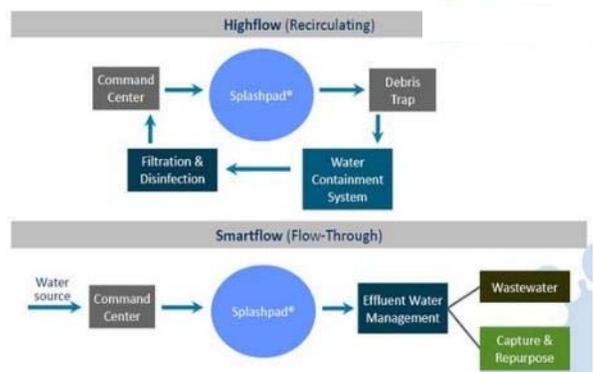


## Eco-Friendly Proposed Technology

Through consultation with industry and stakeholders like the **Kinsmen Club of Sackville** who collaborated with Halifax Park's and Recreation on the most recent large Splashpad project on First Lake in Lower Sackville, valuable knowledge of best practices and technology was gained.

For example, there are multiple avenues for water once it is used by the facility.

- 1) Drain used water directly into municipal waste water infrastructure.
- 2) Filter water and upon disinfecting with UV technology recirculate the water for re-use in the Splashpad.
- 3) Create "grey water" by filtering and de-chlorinating water which can then be re-purposed.

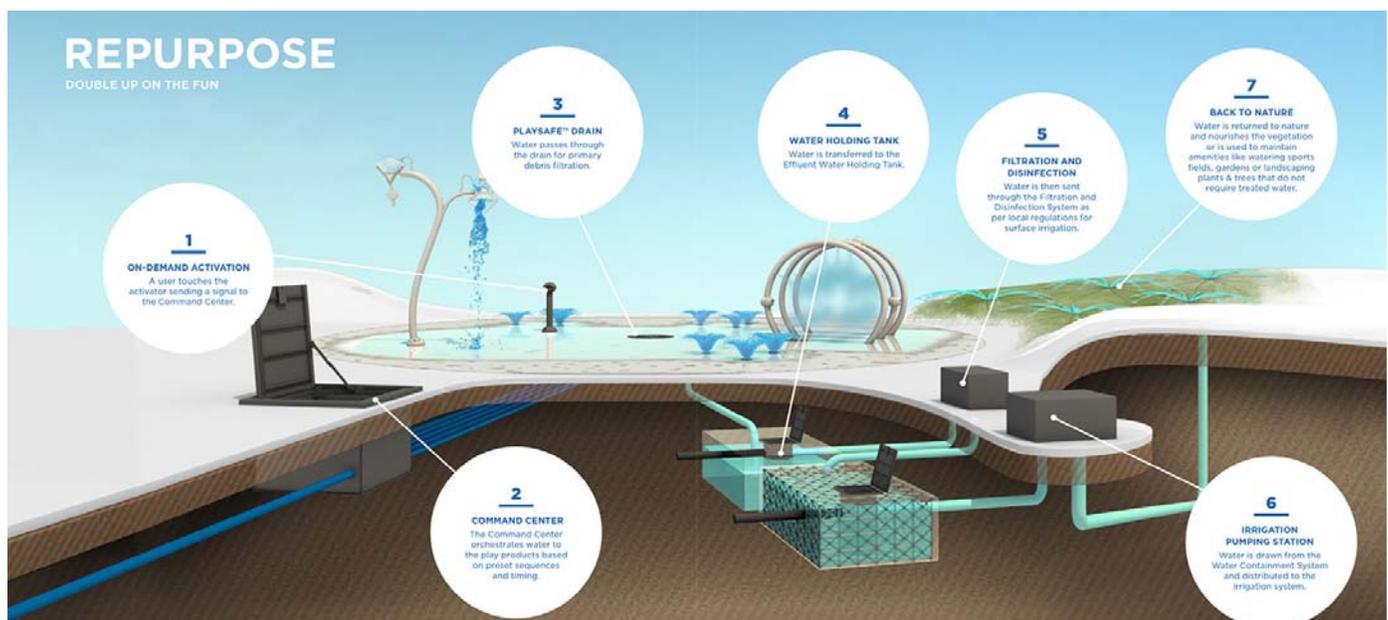


## Re-Purpose used Water

The proposed Splashpad may use up to 134.0 GPM (gallons per minute) of water. Although we would request Halifax Park's and Recreation decide the best technology and approach, we propose the third (option) above for consideration.

Upon filtration & de-chlorination the (grey) water is **safe to re-purpose** in multiple ways, such as:

- Community Garden's & local agriculture
- Fire truck, street cleaning & other Halifax municipal maintenance uses
- Create movement (a current) in Graham's Grove Park cove beach area to move stale water making it safely swimmable



## Proposed Design Elevations

Below are proposed designs. With approval of the location as well with the support of Halifax Park's and Recreation, the design, size, shape, spray features and surrounding elevations are subject to change. We welcome this collaboration and the opportunity to engage with Halifax Park's and Recreation through this process.





Dartmouth SplashPad+Park: Conceptual Design.



Dartmouth SplashPad+Park: Conceptual Design.

## Budget & Financial Considerations

Below are budgetary estimates from industry consultation.

It is our preference that Halifax Park's and Recreation take the lead as it relates to creating specifications that allgn with our vision proposed and the regions requirments. We also propose that as Halifax Park's and Recreation would become the owner of this park facility that the City would also lead the aquision, coordination and project management of this project through completion.

### Estimated Cost

<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Splashpad Supply &amp; Install as proposed:</b>	<b>\$231,727.30</b>
<i><b>Includes:</b></i>	
<i>Supply: "Spray Feature" components as proposed.</i>	
<i>Install: 12" Site prep excavation with compacted granular, Forming + 6" concrete pad reinforced, Installation of all features, drain(s), manifold, Installation of water feed lines from manifold to features, Electrical services of controller, low voltage to activator, bonding of features. Restoration around pad (topsoil/sod), mobilization. NOTE: Does not include any building and miscellaneous mechanical infrastructure (e.g. power to site, water to site, sanitary to site, etc.).</i>	
<b>Site Amenities supply &amp; install as proposed:</b>	<b>\$130,564.71</b>
<i>Includes: Supply and install of three shade structures, six benches, three picnic tables with seats, bike rack and four litter/cycle receptacles.</i>	
<b>Public Art</b>	<b>\$12,000.00</b>
<i>Community cultural/historical component</i>	
<b>Site Preperation &amp; finish Landscaping</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>
<b>Contingency</b>	<b>\$25,707.99</b>
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>	<b>\$450,000.00</b>

### Estimated Revenue

<b>REVENUE</b>	
<b>Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad</b>	<b>\$150,000.00</b>
<i><b>Includes:</b> Fundraising by the Friends of the Dartmouth Spachpad. May include Grants, community and corporate sponsorship, citizen contributions and other fundraising efforts.</i>	
<b>Halifax Regional Municipality</b>	<b>\$300,000.00</b>
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$450,000.00</b>

## Fundraising and Partnership Strategy

The Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad leadership team was assembled as a competency based working committee with members having complimentary backgrounds and unique talents or skillset.

Our commitment as a **volunteer community group** is to **raise \$150,000** towards this project.

**To fundraise our contribution** - potential sponsors, funders and partners **prior** to committing financially want to know that this project has the support of:

- a) Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council
- b) Halifax Regional Council
- c) Halifax Park's & Recreation

**and**

- d) The approved location

This is especially critical for larger corporate sponsors.

Upon approval of **Graham's Grove Park** as the location of the proposed regional Splashpad our team will launch a multi-stage fundraising campaign that includes:

- Public sector and private Corporate Program Grants
- Corporate (private sector) philanthropy
- Community Service Club sponsorship
- Private citizen financial donations

## Community Grants

The following are a non-exhaustive list of grants we intent to apply for, all of which we have had dialogue with the funding stakeholders about the eligibility of our project.

- Nova Scotia Department of Communities Culture and Heritage, Recreation Facility Development Grant. Eligible for up to 1/3 of total project cost, up a max of \$150,000.
- HALIFAX Communities Grants Program for capital projects. Eligible for up to \$25,000.
- Canadian Tire Jump Start Accessibility Grants. Inclusive Designs Innovations Grant. Up to \$250,000, 2 grants at \$500,000 and 2 grants valued at \$1,000,000.
- Various other smaller amount grants

From a timing perspective many of the grants we can apply for have application periods in the first quarter of each calendar year (Jan-March) with award in the second quarter. Although this limit committed funds today, we feel confident in our strategy and commitment to raise \$150,000 towards this project.

### Marketing Strategy

Supporting our marketing efforts and providing guidance to our team is marketing firm **m5 Marketing Communications** via their VP Client Services, Tyler MacLeod who is a member of our Leadership Team. <http://m5.ca>



At the centre of our community engagement and fundraising approach is a multi-layer marketing strategy that includes consulting both citizens and community groups in-person, web and social media approaches.

Beyond engaging community groups who currently actively use Graham's Grove Park, our team is also actively making contact with other Dartmouth and Halifax region organizations, clubs and stakeholders who may have an interest in our project as well as who may be able to offer support and/or guidance.

Digital modes of connecting with the community about our project:

**Web:** <http://dartmouthsplashpad.ca>  
**Newsletter:** <http://eepurl.com/cL5-9L>  
**Email:** [DartmouthSplashpad@gmail.com](mailto:DartmouthSplashpad@gmail.com)  
**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DartmouthSplashpad>

### Citizen Engagement & Support

Through community outreach the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad has consulted with Harbour East – Marine Drive citizens primarily via social media and our public Facebook Group.

With over 1000+ members and growing the Facebook group has been an invaluable tool to survey, collect ideas and engage citizens on topics such as design and location. Informal collaboration has also been done within each leadership team members personal networks and neighbourhoods.

Upon presentation of this proposal to Halifax Park's and Recreation and once City staff recommendations are presented back to Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council, the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad will work with staff to host a **public community information session** to present this proposal formally to the community, welcome feedback and solicit support both from citizens and corporate sponsors.

## Graham's Grove Park Stakeholder Support

As the Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad began to zero in on Graham's Grove Park as a proposed location of the regional Splashpad, with the support of the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth contact and engagement was made with two other community organizations who actively utilize Graham's Grove Park.

**Epic Canadian Run** uses Graham's Grove Park for its Canada Day weekend Epic Run annual event and the **Dartmouth Dragon Boat Association's** home base where they launch, store and dock their boat are at Graham's Grove Park.

Each group expressed both support for a Dartmouth Splashpad and our vision as well as concern that should Graham's Grove Park become a reality that their programs not be impacted negatively. Our team is committed to continuing more formal dialogue with both organizations and others who use the park as this project progresses to ensure it is complimentary to them and other park users.

We respect that greater Halifax parks are for everyone to enjoy and with open dialogue the park can accommodate all. A facility like that being proposed will offer exposure to other programs and bolster the overall use and value of Graham's Grove Park may offer all.

We also feel there is opportunity to enhance Graham's Grove Park usability not only for existing organizations but for future uses that new, permanent infrastructure that comes with a Splashpad may offer.

An example - with site excavation the opportunity to run power service to other areas within the Park for possible future events as well as the paving of pathways throughout the park to make the park more accessible for wheelchair and those with mobility challenges should be considered.

**Aligning these types of projects offers a savings to all groups, greater Halifax and tax payers.**



## Conclusion

Friends of the Dartmouth Splashpad request Halifax Park's and Recreation support formalizing Graham's Grove Park as the location of this project and respectfully request this project be considered by Halifax Regional Council in the 2019/20 Halifax Capital Budget planning.

Our hope is city Staff and Councillors will agree that the proposed building facility being considered at Graham's Grove Park offers a unique opportunity to maximize savings, minimize disruption to the area and add a much needed zero depth aquatic recreation facility in Dartmouth.

We welcome the opportunity to collaborate and look forward to engaging business and community support. In addition to applying for the Nova Scotia Department of Communities Culture and Heritage, Recreation Facility Development Grant we are also initiating a compressive fundraising campaign.

With our partner, the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth our team is mobilized and prepared to move this project forward.

Together, we CAN bring back **PLAY!**



ATTACHMENT 2: SPLASH PAD SITE CRITERIA REVIEW

Table 1: Splash Pad Criteria Review, Graham's Grove Park	
Criteria	Staff Comments
Service gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no splash pad in Dartmouth.</li> <li>• The proposed site is within a 20min walk or 5min public transit travel time to Birch Cove Beach and 15min transit time to Penhorn beach, both of which are lifeguarded. The provision of accessible aquatics is therefore within a reasonable distance. However, in 2017/18 Birch Cove Beach experienced the highest number of beach closure days in HRM.</li> </ul>
Site Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are few available open spaces within the park that can accommodate a regional-scale splash pad. A 20m riparian set back, steep slopes, central path circulation, a park service road and boat launch, and mature trees, limit the suitability of this park.</li> <li>• The picnic area in the northwestern corner of the park could accommodate a regional facility, but the area is low lying, has steeply sloped edges, and its base is suspected infill, requiring a geotechnical assessment.</li> <li>• A smaller scale splash pad could be more suitable to the site, but would require comprehensive site planning.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water infrastructure runs from Hume St. to the current on-site washroom facilities, but its availability would need to be confirmed with Halifax Water.</li> </ul>
Compatibility with park uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A splash pad facility would compliment the existing picnic area, boat launch, and dock.</li> <li>• The site has a high number of booked events during the summer which requires spatial and event planning considerations.</li> <li>• Compatibility with the dragon boat facility may be impacted in terms of their site requirements for trailer access and boat launch clearance.</li> </ul>
Supporting Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The park contains a parking lot, washroom facilities, and a canteen.</li> </ul>
Access to public and active transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a transit route that services the park with hourly weekday service, and half hour service during peak hours. Weekend service is hourly. The closest bus stop is 165m away, it is not an accessible stop.</li> <li>• The Shubenacadie Canal Greenway runs along Lake Banook, adjacent to the site, serving as an important active transportation connection.</li> </ul>
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on observations the parking lot is near or over capacity on evenings and weekends.</li> <li>• It has been reported that when events are occurring, overflow parking falls to the adjacent private parking lot and on-street parking in nearby neighbourhoods.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paving the parking lot could accommodate an additional 20 parking spots to approximately 50 in total, but it is not expected that this additional parking capacity, considering other park uses, would be enough to accommodate a regional splash pad facility for 135 participants.</li> <li>• Some park users may arrive to the site via public transit and active transportation.</li> <li>• Prince Albert Rd is busy for pedestrian crossing.</li> </ul>
Potential Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ~1,115 children 0-10 years live within a 2km catchment.</li> </ul>
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal indicates that they have informed residents through social media and have engaged with users of the Park (Epic Canadian Run, the Dartmouth Dragon Boat Associations, and the Kiwanis Club) as it relates to this specific site. They have noted some concerns have been expressed regarding the potential impact on current programs. The desire to work with HRM to host a public community information session was noted in the community proposal.</li> <li>• Additional broader community engagement would be recommended for this site.</li> </ul>
Socio Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within a 2km catchment of the subject site, the median household income is considered middle income (within 80-120% of the HRM average).</li> </ul>
Financial Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposal provides a cost estimate for this site and outlines a commitment to project fundraising.</li> <li>• A staff review/verification of costing has not been undertaken.</li> </ul>
Suitability of other sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community's proposal indicated that Brownlow Park and the Dartmouth Common were considered as potential locations but Kiwanis Graham's Grove Park was the preferred site.</li> </ul>

Table 2: Splash Pad Criteria Review, Brownlow Park

Criteria	Staff Comments
Service gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no splash pad in Dartmouth.</li> <li>• The proposed site is within a 15min walk or less than 5min transit ride to Penhorn Lake Beach, a lifeguarded beach, and therefore the provision of aquatics is within a reasonable distance.</li> </ul>
Site Suitability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the park experiences poor site drainage.</li> <li>• Rearranging or removing play structures and a general re-organization of the site may be required.</li> <li>• Some site grading may be required to create a level play surface.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water and waste water infrastructure is found in the right-of-way along Bow Street and Peddars Way.</li> <li>• Availability of infrastructure would need to be confirmed with Halifax Water</li> </ul>
Compatibility with park uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brownlow Park has several collocating features: a playground, tennis court and playfield.</li> <li>• Although the splash pad would fit near the tennis court there would not enough physical separation between the facilities.</li> </ul>
Supporting Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no washrooms on site or in the vicinity.</li> </ul>
Access to public transit and active transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a transit route that services the park with hourly weekday service, and half hour service during peak hours. Weekend service is hourly. There is an accessible bus stop adjacent to the park and a terminal ~750m away.</li> <li>• The site is situated within a network of local streets and the IMP proposes an all ages and abilities active transportation route 750m away.</li> </ul>
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no on-site parking.</li> <li>• On-street parking is available on surrounding residential streets.</li> </ul>
Potential Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ~960 children 0-10 years live within a 2km catchment.</li> </ul>
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some engagement has occurred as per the proposal, but a full community engagement program specific to this site has not occurred.</li> </ul>
Socio Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within a 2km catchment of the subject site, the median household income is considered middle income (within 80-120% of the HRM average).</li> </ul>
Financial Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costing, specific to this site, has not been assessed.</li> </ul>
Suitability of other sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dartmouth Common, Brownlow Park, and Kiwanis Graham's Grove Park were evaluated.</li> </ul>

Table 3: Splash Pad Criteria Review, Dartmouth Common

Criteria	Staff Comments
Service gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dartmouth does not have a splash pad facility.</li> <li>• The proposed site is a 20min walk to Birch Cove Beach, which is lifeguarded. Although this is a reasonable distance to satisfy aquatics provision, in 2017/18 Birch Cove Beach experienced the highest number of beach closure days in HRM.</li> <li>• An indoor pool is located at the Dartmouth Sportsplex but this aquatic amenity is not free and its use is regularly scheduled</li> </ul>
Site Suitability	<p>Museum site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site is relatively flat, but steeply sloping at the south and east boundary.</li> <li>• Minor tree/shrub clearing would be required.</li> <li>• Existing monuments in the vicinity should be integrated into the design or avoided with setbacks.</li> <li>• The addition of a vegetated buffer may be warranted due to the presence and sound of traffic on Wyse Road.</li> </ul> <p>Skatepark Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space adjacent to the existing playground including the existing beach volleyball court could accommodate a regional-scale splash pad. This may require relocation or reconfiguration of site features.</li> <li>• Site is set back further from traffic than the museum site.</li> <li>• Some site grading and wall development would be required to create a level surface.</li> <li>• Site landscaping to establish a vegetated buffer and shade would be required in a site design.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<p>Museum site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewer and water servicing may still be in place from former museum structure. However, this would need to be confirmed with Halifax Water.</li> </ul> <p>Skatepark Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water and waste water infrastructure located within the Right-of-way on Wyse Road and Windmill Road, but would need to be confirmed with Halifax Water.</li> </ul>

<p>Compatibility with park uses</p>	<p>Museum site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The former museum site is relatively disconnected from other recreation infrastructure, although there are walking paths which connect it to the rest of the park, including a dog off-leash area and two baseball diamonds.</li> <li>• There would be little disturbance to park users because of the separation between this site and the remainder of the Common.</li> <li>• The Dartmouth Common Plan does not envision active recreation uses at this location.</li> </ul> <p>Skatepark Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This section of the Dartmouth Common is a hub with numerous outdoor recreation amenities: skateboard park, playground, tennis court, volleyball court, basketball court and walking paths.</li> <li>• A splash pad would be a good compliment to the existing playground. The proximity to the skate bowl may present a conflict without an appropriate barrier.</li> <li>• The existing path network is in good condition.</li> </ul>
<p>Supporting Amenities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nearby Dartmouth Sportsplex has washrooms, changerooms and a canteen. Access to the changerooms is currently not accessible to the public without a membership. An arrangement could be explored with the facility for free access.</li> </ul>
<p>Access to public transit and active transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed Dartmouth Common sites are within a 5min walk to a major public transit hub.</li> <li>• There are some existing active transportation routes at the site, and more extensive all ages and abilities routes proposed in the IMP would connect the site to the McDonald Bridge, Wyse Road, and downtown Dartmouth.</li> </ul>
<p>Parking</p>	<p>Museum site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking for approx. 25 vehicles exists on-site.</li> </ul> <p>Skatepark Site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-street parking exists on neighbouring streets to the south of the park.</li> </ul>
<p>Potential Users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ~990 children 0-10 years live within a 2km catchment</li> </ul>
<p>Community Engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some engagement has occurred as per the proposal but a full community engagement program specific to this site has not occurred.</li> <li>• Community engagement is recommended for this site (Skatepark)</li> </ul>
<p>Socio Economics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within a 2km catchment of the subject site, the median household income is considered lower income (within 60-80% of the HRM average).</li> </ul>
<p>Financial Implications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costing, specific to this site, has not been assessed.</li> </ul>
<p>Suitability of other sites</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dartmouth Common, Brownlow Park, and Kiwanis Graham's Grove Park were evaluated.</li> </ul>