

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL  
ON  
RIVERSIDE PARK OUTDOOR SKATING FACILITY UPDATE

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's authorization to approve an updated concept plan for the proposed outdoor skating facility at Riverside Park, which was originally approved by Council on April 11, 2023.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

This report supports Council's strategic priorities and areas of focus regarding:

- **Safety and Security**
  - Built Environment: We create diverse community spaces for people to safely travel through, gather in, and experience our community.
- **Governance and Service Excellence**
  - Asset Management: We plan for the development, improvement, repair, and replacement of our infrastructure.
  - Service Excellence: We promote the continuous development of staff and encourage innovation in process and service delivery.
- **Livability and Sustainability**
  - Recreation and Culture: We prioritize the development of amenities to cultivate diverse and equitable opportunities for recreation, arts, and culture.
  - Inclusivity: We reduce barriers for underrepresented groups to bring inclusivity, diversity, and fairness to our community.
- **Economic Health**
  - Growth Management: We are deliberate and purposeful in planning for the growth of our community.

SUMMARY

Riverside Park is located in the Kamloops downtown core adjacent to the Sandman Centre. The park is heavily utilized for its recreational amenities and green space during the spring, summer, and fall, but it is underutilized during the winter months. To address this underutilization, in April 2023, Council approved the design and construction of an outdoor skating facility. This skating facility was approved as one of two projects that will be funded through the Province's Growing Communities Fund.

Following this approval, Administration assembled a project team to lead the project through detailed design and construction. The project team consists of City staff and qualified contractors and consultants with expertise in landscape architecture, site design, and outdoor ice facility chilling systems as well as other fields.

The previously approved concept for this skating facility was a 1,750 m<sup>2</sup> ice surface that would surround Riverside Park's newly constructed accessible water park. While developing the skating facility's design, the project team discovered a location of comparable size slightly further west in the park. The proposed new location (Attachment "A") presents numerous advantages over the original location. The rationale for relocating the skating facility is outlined in the Discussion portion of this report. An architect's plan view of both locations has also been provided (Attachment "B").

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council authorize staff to continue with the design and construction of the Riverside Park outdoor skating facility at the alternative location slightly west of the original concept plan location near the water park.**

### **SUPPORTING COUNCIL AND CORPORATE DIRECTION**

- December 13, 2018, Council Report: Outdoor Skating Facility Study
- April 11, 2023, Committee of the Whole Report: Growing Communities Grant

### **DISCUSSION**

In developing the design for this skating facility, the project team assessed the optimal location for the facility from a number of different perspectives. Both the original location (water park) and the proposed new location (west) have been compared with the following characteristics in mind:

- Asset Management - Construction of the skating facility in the original location will require the temporary closure of the new Riverside Park water park for an entire summer season. Construction at the proposed new location can be done without interrupting the water park operations.
- Overall Ice Size - The skating facility is of comparable size at both of the locations. The original facility is approximately 1,750 m<sup>2</sup> in area, whereas the proposed new location is approximately 1,850 m<sup>2</sup> in area.
- Financial Success - Relocating the skating facility further west within Riverside Park is cost neutral when compared to the original location. City staff estimate that the facility could be constructed at either location within the \$5.4 million project budget.
- Water Park Spray Pad - The original design concept plan was to include ice rink piping within the water park slab. Since then, staff have learned the elevation required for water park drainage cannot accommodate an ice rink pad. As a result, pipes were not pre-installed under the water park slab. This makes the proposed new location cost neutral.
- Protection of Green Space - The proposed new location is primarily located on existing hard surface and asphalt space; therefore, less than 30% of the footprint would impact existing green space.

### **IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Based on Council's approval and timing, Administration will proceed with the detailed design and construction of the skating facility. Detailed design and site regulatory approvals will be

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**MAKING KAMLOOPS SHINE**

carried out during the remainder of 2024 with the expressed goal of construction during the 2025 summer season.

### COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

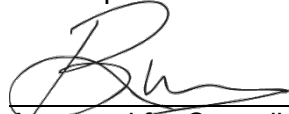
The Civic Operations Department will collaborate with the Communications and Community Engagement Division with respect to communications and community engagement on this project.

The use of the facility has been identified as community, non-programmed drop-in skating and is not intended for hockey of any kind. Further discussions with Tourism Kamloops and the City's Recreation division about potential skate rental opportunities and other amenities will begin after the final design and operational plans are completed.

Staff will present the Riverside Park outdoor skating facility concept plan to the Parks Engagement Group meeting in the first quarter 2024.



J. Fretz, P.Eng.  
Civic Operations Director



Approved for Council

Concurrence: B. J. McCorkell, Deputy Chief  
Administrative Officer

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Supervisor

Reviewed by: M. Kachel, P. Eng, Capital Projects  
Manager  
J. Putnam, B.Comm, Parks and Civic  
Facilities Manager

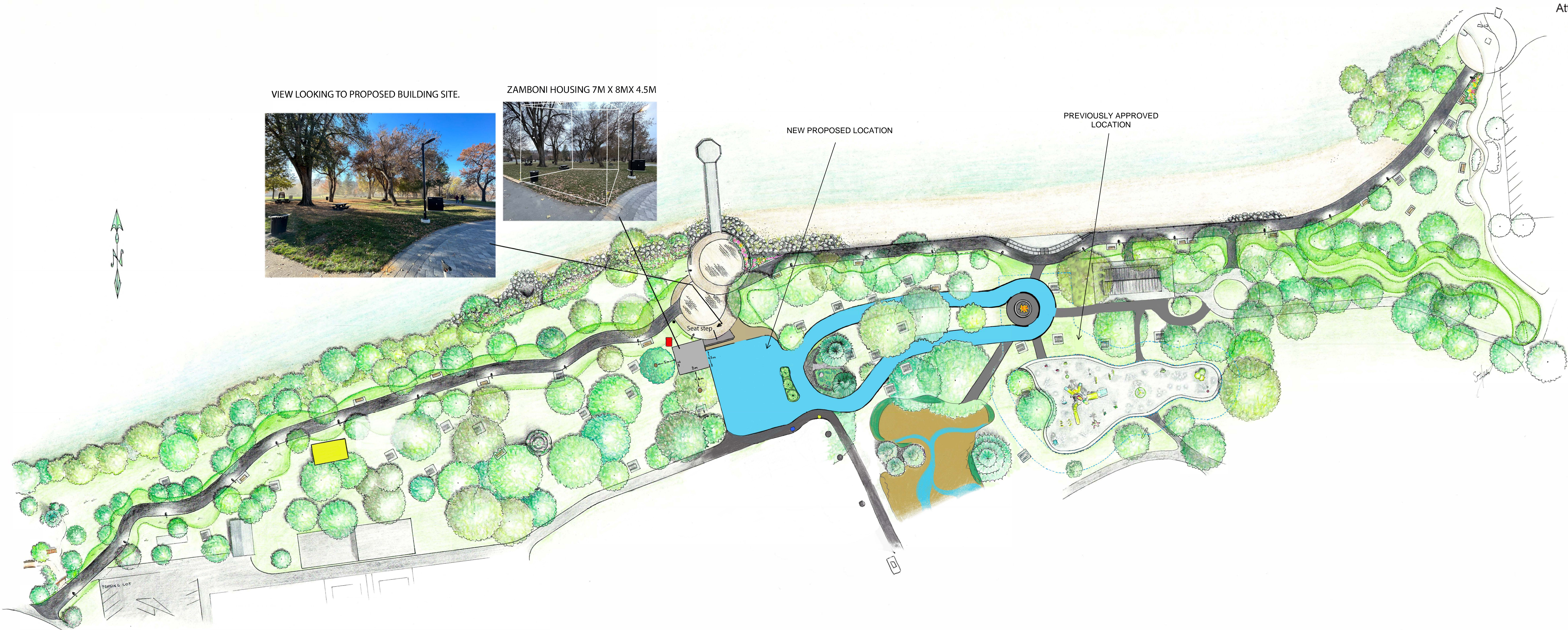
AG/kjm

Attachments









DRAWING TITLE  
RIVERSIDE PARK SKATING  
RINK/RIBBON ALTERNATIVE  
LOCATION WITH AIR COOLED  
SYSTEM MECHANICAL  
BUILDING IN KITCHEN  
LOCATION. CONCEPT #3C

DISCLAIMER  
THIS DRAWING  
REPRESENTS THE IDEAS OF  
URBAN APPEAL IN  
CONCEPT FORM FOR  
REVIEW. NOT TO BE USED  
FOR CONSTRUCTION.

CLIENT



Canada's Tournament Capital

DESIGNER



URBAN APPEAL

CONSULTANT



PROJECT: RIVERSIDE PARK SKATING  
RINK/RIBBON DESIGN/CONCEPT  
PHASE  
DATE: 23/11/2023  
SCALE: UNSPECIFIED  
BY: SARAH HOLLIDAY

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	APPD.
6	23/11/23	CONCEPT 3C	SH	WI
5	1/11/23	CONCEPT 3B	SH	WI
4	30/10/23	CONCEPT 3A	SH	WI
3	24/10/23	DRAFT CONCEPT 3	SH	WI
2	04/10/23	CONCEPT 2A LONG RIBBON	SH	WI
1	01/04/22	CONCEPT 1 SPLASHPARK RIBBON	SH	WI

DRAWING NO.  RPSR-3C	SHEET:  1 OF 1
	ISSUE/REV:  1