



Report : PK2023-002
Date : August 30 2023
Submitted by: Alain Hupé
Sujet : Commemorative Naming of Municipal Bench and
Trees Program Policy

Nature / Goal

The purpose of this report is to get council approval to implement a new policy that will provide a fair, consistent and efficient process for naming of municipal bench and trees after a person or a family

Directive/Previous policy

None

Department's recommendation

WHEREAS the administration received numerous requests by members of the community to purchase and dedicate benches or trees on City property to commemorate a person or a family; and

WHEREAS there is currently no program in place to manage commemorative naming of municipal bench and trees; and

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council adopts Policy PK2023-01, being a policy to establish the guidelines for the Commemorative Naming of Municipal Bench and Trees Program; and

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council adopts a By-Law to amend Annex J of the user fee By-Law 2023-10, to reflect the proposed changes in the new Commemorative Naming of Municipal Bench and Trees program policy as recommended in Report No. PK2023-002.

ATTENDU QUE l'administration a reçu plusieurs demandes de la part des résidents qui désiraient acheter et dédier un banc ou un arbre sur les propriétés de la Cité afin de commémorer une personne ou une famille; et

ATTENDU QU'aucun programme est présentement en place pour administrer l'achat de banc et arbre commémoratif;

QUE le comité plénier recommande au Conseil d'adopter la politique PK2023-01, étant la politique pour établir les lignes directrices pour le programme d'arbres et de bancs commémoratifs; et

QUE le comité plénier recommande au Conseil d'adopter un règlement pour modifier l'annexe J au règlement 2023-10 sur les frais usagers, afin de refléter les changements proposés dans la nouvelle politique pour le programme d'arbres et de bancs commémoratifs, tel que recommandé au rapport no. PK2023-002.

Background

Over the years, the administration received numerous requests from members of the community to purchase a commemorative bench and/or tree on City property. Some of these requests were addressed by different opportunities created with-in different City project. For example, the city had a sponsorship program during the Alain Potvin Park development phase that allowed resident to "sponsor" a bench or a tree.

The City never put in place a policy in order to allow staff to properly manage theses constant request from the community.

Discussion

The goal of this policy is to put forth a set of principles and guidelines which are required to assists families who wish to have a tree planted and/or installation of a bench on City's property in remembrance or to commemorate a person or a family.

The following are the highlights of the proposed policy:

- City will be responsible for the installation of tree and/or bench.
- Applicant to pay installation cost.
- Applicant to pay cost related to the plaque.
- City will guarantee the bench/tree for a maximum of 5 years.
- Location to be chosen by the City while considering applicants suggestion.

The administration foresees this program to be beneficial for both the donor and the City considering that it will:

- Allow residents to invest in City infrastructure.
- Add new City infrastructure with no direct impact on tax rate.
- Add more trees and/or benches on City properties.
- Help create a sense of belonging for residents inside our parks.
- Help some residents commemorate important members of the community.

Consultation

N/A

Recommendations or comments from committee/ other departments

N/A

Financial impact (expenses/material/etc.)

The program will have no operational budget impact as all cost associated to the purchase, installation and maintenance of the bench/tree will be covered by the fees charged to the applicant. Fees has been set as follow:

Bench: \$3,500 (including tax)

Tree: \$800.00 (including tax)

Legal implication

N/A

Risk management

N/A

Strategic implications

N/A

Supporting documents

- Commemorative Naming of Municipal Bench and Trees Program Policy
- Modified User Fee by-law - Shedule J