



TOWN OF MINTO

MEETING DATE: April 2nd, 2024
REPORT TO: Mayor and Council
SERVICE AREA: Public Works – Wastewater Services
SUBJECT: PW 2024-011 – Harriston Fairgrounds Servicing Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT Council of the Town of Minto receives report PW 2024-011 regarding the Harriston Fairgrounds Servicing Plan; and

THAT Council of the Town of Minto agrees with the RV waste disposal site decommissioning to comply with MECP regulations.

BACKGROUND:

The RV waste disposal site was placed in the Harriston Fairgrounds in the 1980's to assist with various large events that took place in the Fairgrounds. At the time, there were no regulations or compliance issues regarding a site of this nature.

In 2015 CAO Bill White provided a report and recommendation to implement a deposit and fee program for the Harriston RV Sewage Dumping Station to alleviate the overuse of the site from non-residents.

In February 2023, Interim CAO Chris Harrow reported to Council that a service club was interested in helping enhance the grounds of the Harriston Arena, including the construction of a sports pad.

In March 2024 Director of Community Services Matthew Lubbers brought forward a Harriston fairgrounds plan that identified some servicing changes that would need to be made to accommodate the plan and a future report would be brought to Council.

COMMENTS:

The current concept for the future Harriston fairgrounds does not include the RV waste disposal site as part of the proposed design. Concerns were raised at the public meeting about the decommissioning of the dump station as there are quite a few residents that use this service. Roughly 100 keys have been distributed between 2014 - 2023 and it is assumed not all key holders are still using the service with lost keys, residents moving away etc.

The RV sewage dumping station is operational currently, however the underground infrastructure is in disrepair. There are frequent emergency calls to repair backed up

sewage, often during events such as baseball tournaments and camping events. It is a considerable source of infiltration to the sanitary sewage system in Harriston. The RV dumping station being located in the flood zone also creates significant operational challenges for Minto Staff during flooding events.

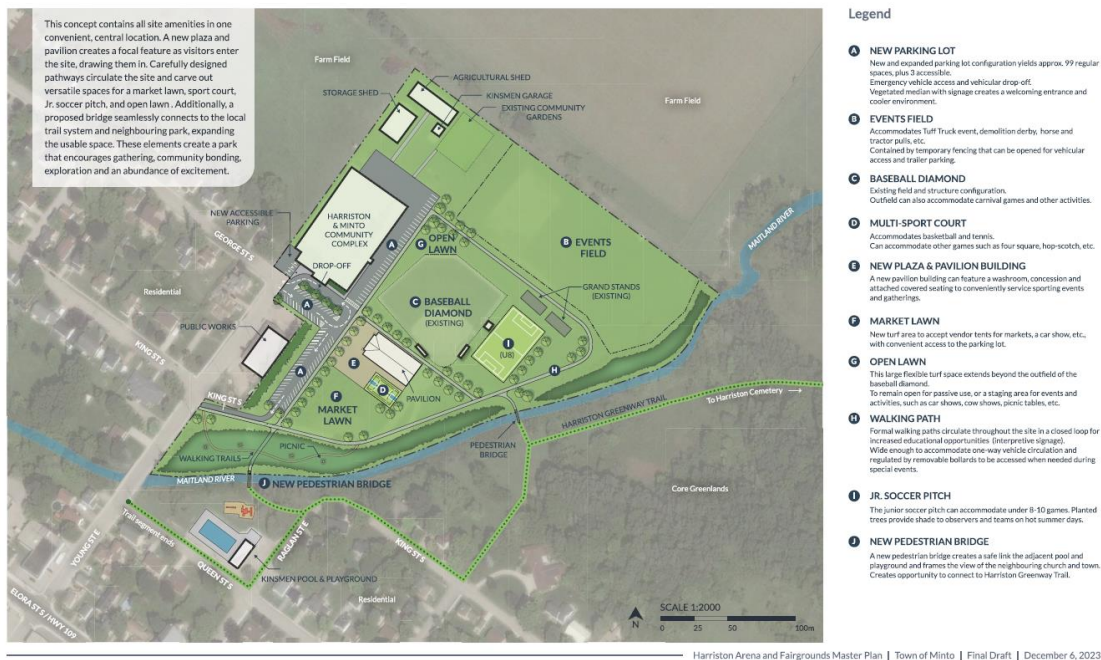
Recent changes in MECP (Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks) regulation identified that the RV dumping station is not an approved dumping location nor does it meet the requirements for one. The MECP also notified the Town that the Harriston Lagoon is not designed, rated or approved to accept such septage. Significant upgrades and approvals would be required at both the Lagoon and dumping location in order to continue offering this service to residents.

Other options are available that provide this service including most campgrounds which are equipped with dumping facilities. Several websites are available to aid locating dump sites on the route home from a camping adventure. As well, a local option exists at McPhail's of Harriston for anyone doing local camping.

Any current keyholders will be issued a refund for their key deposit.

The decommissioning is proposed to take place after June 1st, giving key holders and staff time to make alternate arrangements for the upcoming summer season.

Concept 4 - Preferred



FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Key deposits of \$20.00 will be refunded to current key holders. Decommissioning will be completed by Town staff and will require minimal supplies.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

Goal 1: Manage Our Infrastructure

Maintain, renew, and expand our municipally owned infrastructure to enhance healthy growth and our environment.

PREPARED BY: Mark Robertson, Wastewater Services Manager

RECOMMENDED BY: Chris Harrow, Interim Chief Administrative Officer