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**STAFF REPORT: RECREATION DEPARTMENT**



**REPORT TO:** Infrastructure and Recreation  
**MEETING DATE:** May 14, 2013  
**REPORT NO.:** DOR 13 27  
**SUBJECT:** Thornbury Pier Development  
**PREPARED BY:** Shawn Everitt, Director of Recreation

**A. Recommendations**

THAT Council receive Staff Report DOR 13 27, "Thornbury Pier Development" for information purposes.

AND THAT Council direct staff to proceed with developing a 2014 capital project sheet for consideration during the 2014 budget deliberations.

**B. Background**

Staff has developed a Thornbury Pier enhancement plan that will ensure that safety measures are in place for the 2013 summer season.

The Thornbury Pier is a high traffic area for recreational users, in 2010, staff installed a ladder on the West side of the pier to allow for increased ease of getting out of the water and back on the higher pier elevation. Also included in the safety enhancements was the installation of a life ring that was placed on the pier.

In 2011, rubber matting was installed on the surface of the pier to increase safety as well as enhance the use of the pier. The original concrete surface had become very rough and had significant "pot holes" that presented trip hazards.

Proposed for 2013, Parks staff fabricated concrete anchors that will be placed in pre-determined locations that will allow for 7 life rings to be anchored in the water that will provide safety for swimmers. The purpose of these life rings is to provide a rest area for swimmers who are waiting to access the pier ladder or in situations where the swimmer is tired or distressed the life ring can be used to get to safety. Additional signage will be installed identifying that diving is prohibited and that water levels can change on an hourly basis and to take caution at all times. It is suggested that placement of the life rings will provide some visual identification as the area safest for jumping will be identified within the life ring area.

Staff has also received a request to re-design the existing pier ladder to be more user friendly and have smoother stainless steel ladder rungs installed. Staff is also proposing that the ladder be lengthened as water levels have lowered.

A concept has been received by staff that would have a dock type platform anchored on the west side of the pier that would allow for swimmers to access. This platform's design would require substantial consideration of allowing for the platform to weather rough water conditions, and would require the use of a significant wave break. With

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Councils direction, staff would begin the preliminary design work that would allow for creation of a capital project sheet for the 2014 budget process and provide solid costing for the future consideration.

### **C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan**

Supporting the development of social and recreational programs to meet the broad range of needs in the community.

### **D. Environmental Impacts**

To ensure sustainable and appropriate use of Town Parkland and open space.

### **E. Financial Impact**

It is anticipated that costs for the 2014 capital project approximately \$125,000 to \$150,000 for the dock platform, based on square footage cost of the ongoing dock replacement project.

### **F. In Consultation With**

Ryan Gibbons, Harbour/Cemetery Manager

### **G. Attached**

1. Thornbury Harbour Pier proposed life ring location
2. Proposed Dock Platform concept

Respectfully submitted,

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Elma St N

Lakeshore Dr

Harbour St

Length: 49.27 m

Length: 47.65 m

• Suggested Life Ring Locations



