



740 Hyde Park Road • P.O. Box 28065 • London, ON N6H 5E1 • (519) 494-1053 • www.treesfortheparkway.ca

Report to City Council

January 2013

Pursuant to Clause 8, Agreement between the Corporation of the City of London, and the Ontario Horticultural Trades Association o/a Landscape Ontario, September 19, 2011, the following constitutes our report to City Council:

1. Proposed 2013 Projects, Funders, and related Costs and Values:

The goal of the Veterans Memorial Parkway (VMP) Community Program (CP) for the calendar year 2013 are to complete a total of 6 tree planting projects each consisting of 100 50-60mm trees installed along the boulevards of the VMP.

In addition the VMP CP is planning on constructing 1 large and 1 small commemorative features as well as a stone road sign sponsored by GDLS.

Table 1 – Projects for 2013

No.	Description / Location	Installed by	Actual Cost	Sponsors / Status	Calculated Value
6	100 Tree (50-60mm Stock) Blocks In Zone 2 (Thames River north to Oxford)	Volunteers	120,000	200 trees by Trojan, Starlim, 3M Canada, Echo Power Equipment and various others. 100 trees by GDLS 300 trees to be determined	180,000
1	Large Commemorative Feature (Bravery)with assorted landscaping North of Paige Street, West side of VMP	Professionals	90,000	Landscape Ontario London Chapter	125,000



**VETERANS
MEMORIAL
PARKWAY**
Community Program

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1	Small Commemorative Feature (Canadian Flag in Stone) with assorted landscaping South of Dundas Street, West Side of VMP	Volunteer Professionals and Scouts of the 66th	30,000	Triple H Group of Companies and 66th Scout Group Pending design and the acquisition of the land from Farhi Holdings	37,500
1	Stone Road Sign with engraved VMP Logo & plaque with Sponsor Name South of Oxford, West Side of VMP (centre of GDLS Grove)	Professional	10,000	Pending final design	12,500

Summary

No.	Description		Actual Cost		Calculated Value
6	Tree Projects	600 Trees	120,000		180,000
1	Large Commemorative Feature		90,000		112,500
1	Small Commemorative Feature		30,000		37,500
1	Stone Street Sign		10,000		12,500
	Total Funds Required:		250,000	Total Value Generated:	342,500



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	Committed to date - Sponsors:		17,500	Applied to Projects	
	Committed to date – City (PP&D):		10,000	Applied to Projects	
	Under consideration - Sponsors:		230,000	Applied to Projects	
	Committed to date – City:		50,000	Applied to Program Support (Overhead, etc.)	

Note 1: Value calculation based on a comparable tree planted in a city park. Average cost to the city for planting similar trees on the VMP has been \$400 per tree based on actual tenders issued.

2. Information & Advice Received:

a. VMP Community Advisory Committee:

Two meetings of the VMP Community Advisory Committee were held on April 10th and September 18th at the North London Optimist Community Centre.

Two major concerns were raised for consideration by the VMP CP. The first was the standard of maintenance to be implemented along the VMP. The second was a recommendation to develop a means of accepting donations from the general public for trees to be planted in honour of a particular veteran.

b. Maintenance:

Having received strong opinions from the VMP Community Advisory Committee, Corporate Sponsors, prospective sponsors, community organizations such as the Argyle Community Association, and individuals, the VMP CP Board of Directors have struck a Maintenance committee to look into the development of standards of maintenance, and a plan to implement same.

The maintenance committee met with City staff to express concerns and discuss various solutions. As a result of these meetings, the London Chapter of Landscape Ontario will proceed to provide City staff with a number of maintenance proposals and quotes for specific areas on the VMP.



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c. Memorial Trees for Individual Veterans:

Having received many requests to provide this service, the VMP CP is working on developing a proposal.

The difficulty with having memorial trees for individual veterans on the VMP is directly related to the fact that the VMP is in effect a highway. Donors often wish to be able to visit their donated trees. This is not practicable along the VMP. A possible solution is the creation of a parkette located near the VMP consisting of a stone wall of remembrance, a 100 tree “Living Guard of Honour”, and some park benches. The donated tree is planted in one of the blocks along the VMP, but a commemorative plaque or carving is made in the parkette. The parkette could also be a venue for a series of kiosks providing a variety of information about the VMP and the VMP program.

The VMP CP is currently working with Parks Planning & Design to see if there is a suitable location for this “feature” and is working on developing a budget and an implementation plan. Three locations have been considered, a River Road site, Crumlin and Oxford, and around the Bradley Road commuter parking lot. The current favorite is the Bradley site.

The VMP CP will provide a detailed report to council on its findings and recommendations at a future time.

d. Fanshawe College Horticultural Program:

The Fanshawe College Horticultural Program has participated in the VMP CP projects in 2012 and will continue to do so. Participation in VMP CP planting projects was made part of the curriculum for students and was enforced. The students were able to provide the VMP CP volunteer planters with knowledgeable planting direction and acted as coaches.

Prepared by:

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Veterans Memorial Parkway Community Program

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Chair

Veterans Memorial Parkway Community Program Board of Directors