

	<b>THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG</b>
	<b>PARKS AND RECREATION</b> <b>ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
TO:	Brent Larmer, Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services
FROM:	Jodi Ware-Simpson, Secretary
MEETING DATE:	Monday, March 29, 2021
SUBJECT:	West Headland as a Natural Environment

The following Motion was adopted at the Tuesday, March 9, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) Meeting:

Moved by Member Mutton

**Whereas** the Town of Cobourg's Strategic Plan, Strategic Action #7 under the Subsection on Places, states: "...the natural environment of the West Harbour will be safeguarded and protected;"

And, the Staff Report from the Director of Community Services, submitted to Council at the March 9, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting identified the West Headland as a Landmark Park (under the name Marina Park);

And, according to the Parks Master Plan a Landmark Park "should enhance tourism and economic development" and "accommodate increased commercial use" (PMP 2013, p. 33) with a primary function as support for "tourism, festivals and large gatherings" (PMP 2013 p. 27);

And, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee believes this categorization does not provide adequate protection for the natural environment of the West Harbour and an important waterfront ecosystem and public space for passive recreation;

**Therefore**, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends:

**THAT** Council strengthen the environmental protection of the West Headland by designating it as a Nature Park under Schedule A of the Parks Use By-Law, and defined as "parks that are predominantly natural in character and exhibit landscape/environmental characteristics common to Cobourg or the surrounding area. The focus of these parks is conservation, nature appreciation, and interpretation. They provide a nature-based experience and environmentally compatible passive recreation

activities.”

**Further**, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that Council consider developing related policy regulations for the West Headland as a Natural Environment component of harbour infrastructure with respect to the *Lake Ontario Shoreline Management Plan* (Zuzek Inc., November 5, 2020), the overarching principle of which is the promotion of “sustainable coastal development in the future through integrated coastal zone management.” Key objectives include increasing the resilience of coastal communities, incorporating nature-based solutions to reduce coastal hazards where possible, and, protecting and enhancing existing public amenities along the coast (Zuzek Inc, page 3).

Carried