




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	March 21, 2024
SUBJECT:	Update #3 – Order to Comply – Fire Damage for Woodlands Park Washroom Located at 501 Barton Street East (CFEM2405) (Ward 3)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 3
SUBMITTED BY:	Indra Maharjan Director, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

Background:

As communicated previously on January 8 and January 23, 2024, an order to comply was issued by the Hamilton Building Department after a fire damaged the washroom structure at Woodlands Park, 501 Barton Street East. The order required the site to be secured immediately. The purpose of this Communication update is for Mayor Horwath and Members of Council to be kept apprised of the ongoing remedy of the Woodlands Park Washroom Facilities.

The site has been well secured to make it safe and prevent access. In the interim a portable toilet has been installed on site. These temporary washroom facilities are scheduled to be open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Times may vary based on staff availability to arrive on site.

An engineer has been engaged and will be completing a structural stability assessment and will advise for further works per the order. A preliminary assessment was completed in February, but a detailed structural assessment must be completed to determine the full extent of the damage. To do this the building must be made safe for entry, by a partial demolition of the roof. In addition to retaining a structural engineer to provide guidance, Facilities Staff (Corporate Facilities & Energy Management Division) are working with Risk Management and the Environmental Services Division to minimize the impact on other park amenities.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

Operational Update:

A community placemaking project had installed artwork on the building, called, “Woodlands Park: Ghost Landscape”, at two locations of Woodlands Park, one of which was affixed to the side of the washroom facility. In order to avoid damage to the project work, it has been removed from the washroom facility and being stored at a city site while the washroom is being worked on. Coordination with the artist is underway.

A contractor has been hired, and they have secured a building permit, on Thursday, March 14, 2024, for the partial demolition of the Woodlands washroom roof. This work is required to remove the existing roof and debris so the site can be made safe for the structural engineer to enter the facility and complete a fulsome structural assessment.

The contractor mobilized on site the morning of March 14, 2024 to prepare the site for partial demolition. This required the fencing perimeter to be increased, protecting the public from any debris that may fall during this partial demolition. The contractor cleaned up the debris that was surrounding the facility and built protective barriers for the apparatus’ attached to the facility, including the gas meter and water fountain. Photos of the work that was completed on March 14, 2024 can be seen in the Appendix “A” to Report CFEM2405.

The demolition of the roof will begin shortly. Once the site has been made safe the structural engineer will return to complete a thorough structural investigation and report.

The City appreciates the concerns with the facility and the inconveniences to the members of the public who frequent the site. Staff understand that a public meeting is being arranged and will attend to provide an update and hear any concerns and answer any questions they may have. This information will be synthesized and captured in a future Public Works Committee report.

If you have any questions respecting this Communication Update, please contact Robyn Ellis, Manager of Strategic Planning & Capital Compliance at Robyn.Ellis@hamilton.ca or Extension 2616.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to CFEM2405 – Photos of Completed Work Taken on March 14, 2024

Completed Work at Woodlands Park Washroom Located at 501 Barton Street East
Photos Taken on March 14, 2024

