



## COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting Date: January 11, 2022

### **Subject: Community Identification Committee Recommendation - Naming a New Park in Beacon Hill "Reflections Lookout"**

#### **APPROVALS:**

**Jamie Doyle**

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Director

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Chief Administrative Officer

#### **Recommended Motion:**

THAT the new park under development in Beacon Hill as shown in Attachment 1 be named "Reflections Lookout".

#### **Summary:**

The Community Identification Committee recommends that the new park under development in Beacon Hill commemorating the 2016 Horse River Wildfire be named as "Reflections Lookout", and that it be forwarded to Council for approval.

In accordance with the Community Identification System Policy (LDI-010), Council approval is required for the naming of municipal facilities in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo.

#### **Background:**

The proposed construction of a new park in Beacon Hill originated as a means of commemorating the region's experiences with the 2016 Horse River Wildfire. The project was intended to create an environment for the public to reflect, pay respects to first responders, and remember those impacted by this devastating event.

The Community Identification Committee received a request from the Municipality's Public Works Department to assign a name to this future park (legally described as a portion of Block R1, Plan 3381TR, shown in Attachment 1).

At its meeting on March 25, 2021, the Committee discussed the naming request and felt it inappropriate to use names related to 'Wildfire', 'Resilience' or 'Memorial' as these may trigger negative emotions, including heightened anxiety, amongst those impacted by the wildfire. Taking inspiration from both the location and purpose of the park, the Committee chose the name "Reflections Lookout" and recommended that it be forwarded to Council for approval.

**Rationale for Recommendation:**

The park project is at the stage of tendering and requires a name. It is situated such that it affords beautiful views of Grayling Terrace, Waterways, Abasand, Downtown, Responder's Way (a portion of Highway 63), and Firehall 1. Many of these views carry special meaning, featuring areas that were significantly impacted by the wildfire, and facilities that played an important role in emergency response.

The recommended name arose through public engagement and represents what the community wishes the park to signify. The proposed name is also in accordance with the Council approved Community Identification System Policy (LDI-010).

**Strategic Priorities:**

Responsible Government  
Rural and Indigenous Communities and Partnerships

**Attachments:**

**1. Subject Area Map - Beacon Hill Park**