



## Council Report

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**Report Number:** CS2024-007  
**Meeting Date:** May 21, 2024  
**Title:** Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee Pedestrian Bridge Project  
**Author and Title:** LeAnn Donnelly, Executive Assistant, Community Services

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### **Recommendation(s):**

**That** Report CS2024-007, **Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee Pedestrian Bridge Project** be received; and

**That** Council provide a letter of support to the Powerlinks Committee to be used as a reference and included in any applications for regulatory approvals or grant funding as required to move the pedestrian bridge project forward.

**Department Head:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial/Legal/HR/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Administrative Officer:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Background:**

The Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee oversees and makes recommendations to Council regarding the use of the Powerlinks Fund to be used for the betterment and enhancement of Parks and Recreation in the village of Fenelon Falls.

At the Council meeting of May 17, 2022, Council passed the following resolution enabling the Powerlinks Committee to move forward with the design study for a lower gorge pedestrian crossing:

9.3.17 CW2022-124

**That** \$150,000.00 be released from the Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Reserve Fund to the Fenelon Falls Chamber of Commerce for a site design study of a lower gorge pedestrian crossing.

**Carried**

On April 9, 2024, a presentation was made to Council by members of the Powerlinks Committee outlining their vision for the lower gorge of the Fenelon River, just downstream of the falls. The vision consists of two components. First, to address the inadequate dockage in the lower reach, it is proposed to install further docking at various locations along the shore of the river, with access to the top of the cliffs to access the town. Second, it is proposed that a single span pedestrian bridge be erected to connect Clifton Street North and South, allowing a second pedestrian crossing over the river. These projects will provide a significant benefit to the community providing additional docking and walkways providing better accessibility for residents and visitors to access the downtown core.

## **Rationale:**

The design phase is now complete therefore the Powerlinks Committee is requesting a letter of support for the project from Council to accompany the submission of applications to the required governing authorities seeking approval for the Powerlinks Committee to move forward with the project. Such approvals may be required from authorities such as Trent Severn Waterway (TSW), Kawartha Lakes Conservation Authority (KLCA), Department of Fisheries and Oceans, (DFO), Ministry of Transportation (MTO), and other consultation or regulatory authorities governing the project area.

## **Other Alternatives Considered:**

There are no other alternatives considered at this time.

## **Alignment to Strategic Priorities**

The recommendations in this report align with the following strategic priority within 2024-2027 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan:

1. An Exceptional Quality of Life – enhancing community areas and encouraging social and healthy interactions.
2. A Vibrant and Growing Economy – supporting downtown areas to ensure our communities have a strong core.
3. Good Government – working collaboratively with local groups to foster teamwork within our communities.

## **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

While there are no current financial or operational impacts because of this report a future funding request from the Powerlinks Reserve will be submitted to Council once all the appropriate approvals are in place.

## **Servicing Implications:**

There are no servicing implications because of this report.

## **Consultations:**

Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee

Treasury

## **Attachments:**

N/A

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**Department Head:** Jenn Johnson, Acting Director of Community Services