

Memorandum

Planning and Development Services

Prepared for: Regular Council

Meeting Date: Monday, April 28, 2025

Title: Black Creek Water Windows

The Town of Fort Erie Waterfront Strategy places an emphasis on creating Waterfront Windows for use and enjoyment of residents and visitors. Community Planning Staff have been working to complete a Waterfront Windows project in the Black Creek Neighbourhood that predates the current Staff.

The project has confirmed survey lines, informed residents that any encroachments need to be removed, installed signage that was previously prepared and stored at a Town facility and going forward will incorporate tree plantings along the boundaries of the windows, add benches and pathways at select locations.

Councillor Noyes contacted Staff to share two concerns from residents about the current signage installed at the Waterfront Windows:

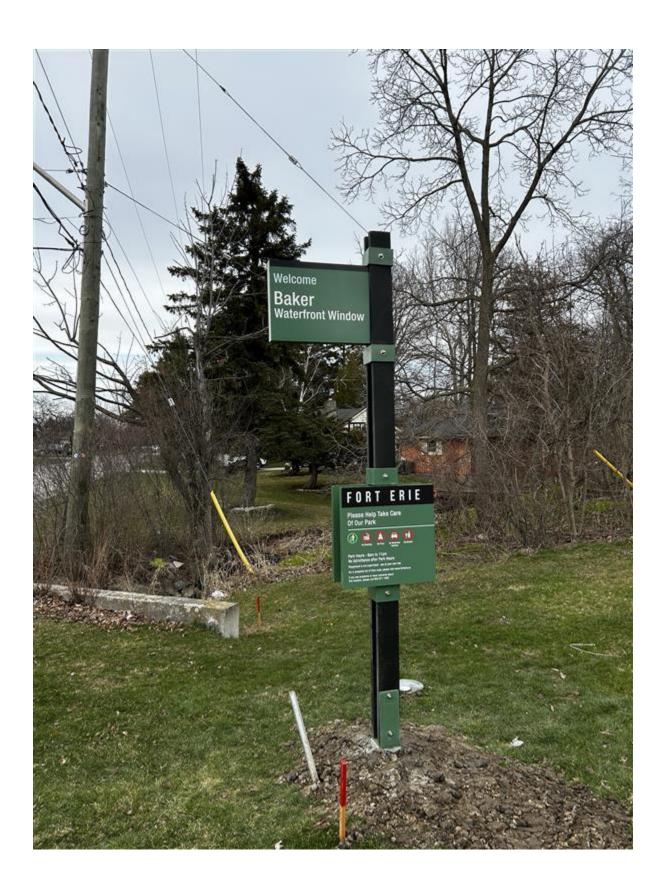
- 1. The time listed is from 6am to 11pm
- 2. Dogs are currently not permitted at these locations (even on a leash)

As these signs were printed a few years ago, they do not reflect that *By-law No. 73-2021* was amended via *By-law No. 138-2022* to permit dogs in parks and public spaces excluding beaches on a leash. The current signs are consistent with Park and Open Space signs throughout the Town as these signs have not been updated since the new By-law was adopted. Staff do not foresee this as a significant issue because By-law Staff are aware of the new By-law and no one will be penalized for walking with there dogs on a leash in these public spaces.

The current times listed on the Waterfront Window signs are consistent with the hours posted for Parks and Open Spaces throughout the Town. For the purposes of consistency, Staff do not recommend changing the Waterfront Window times for one area. In addition, "Dusk to Dawn" will vary dependent on the time of the year and creates enforcement challenges.

Based on Council direction Staff could order decals (heavy duty stickers) to make the requested amendment to the signs. Staff estimate that this will cost about \$1000.00 for all 5 of the Black Creek Signs and would require an increase to the Park enhancement budget, however, Staff do not recommend amending these signs in isolation. Council may want to consider making this a larger project for Parks and Open Space signs throughout the entire municipality for consistency if a change at this location is desired.

Prepared by: **Edward Terry MCIP, RPP**Manager of Policy and Community Planning







Town of Fort Erie Black Creek Waterfront Window Park Signs 601 Lakeshore Road, Fort Erie, ON JOB CONTACT

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⊠FINAL