

THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

Report TR 08-2025

Council Meeting Date: February 25, 2025

TO: Mayor Cook and Members of Council

FROM: Rebecca Clothier, Director of Financial Services

RE: 2024 Cash in Lieu of Parkland

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report TR 08-2025 regarding 2024 Cash in Lieu of Parkland be received; and

THAT the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Statement be approved; and

THAT the Treasurer's Cash in Lieu of Parkland Statement be posted on the Lambton Shores website.

SUMMARY

This report presents the 2024 Cash in Lieu (CIL) of Parkland statement, which outlines the collection and use of funds as required under Section 42 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P13 (Planning Act)*. Municipalities are legislatively obligated to provide an annual Treasurer's Statement to ensure transparency and accountability in the management of these funds. Approval of this report will confirm compliance with provincial reporting requirements and support the continued administration of parkland-related financial reserves.

BACKGROUND

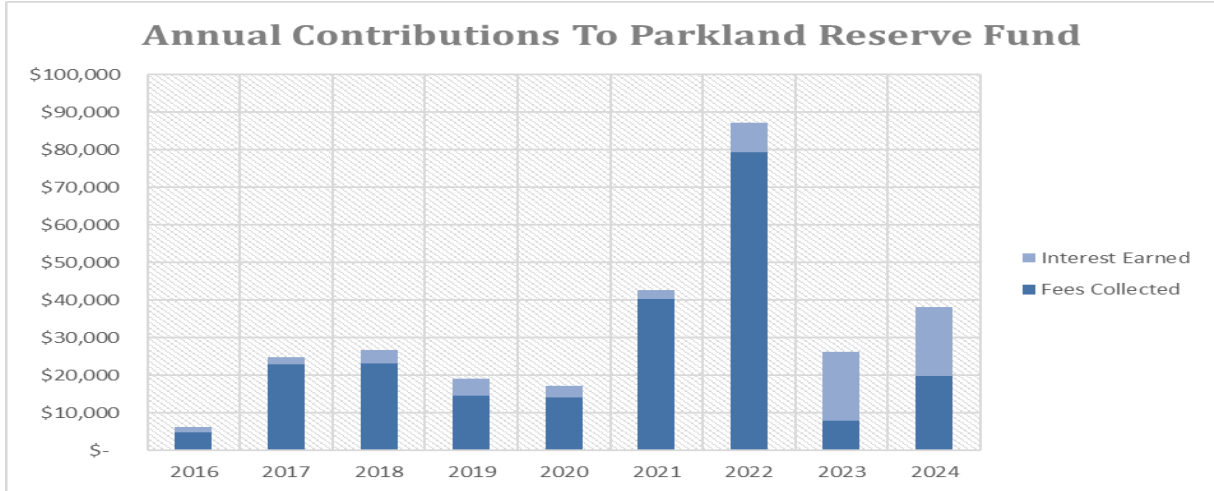
On July 1, 2016, changes to the *Planning Act* introduced reporting requirements mandating that municipalities provide a Treasurer's Statement outlining the collection and allocation of funds obtained through Section 42 of the *Planning Act* (parkland dedication).

Under Section 42, municipalities may require developers to dedicate land for parks or recreational purposes as a condition of development. Alternatively, the municipality may accept a payment in lieu of land dedication, which is deposited into a dedicated reserve fund. These funds must be allocated interest and may only be used for the acquisition of parkland, improvements to recreational facilities, or the purchase of related infrastructure and equipment.

Lambton Shores has been collecting Cash in Lieu (CIL) of Parkland since amalgamation in 2001 in accordance with the *Planning Act*.

The annual contributions and interest earnings vary each year, as illustrated in the following graph.

Figure 1: Annual Contributions to the Parkland Reserve Fund (2016-2024)

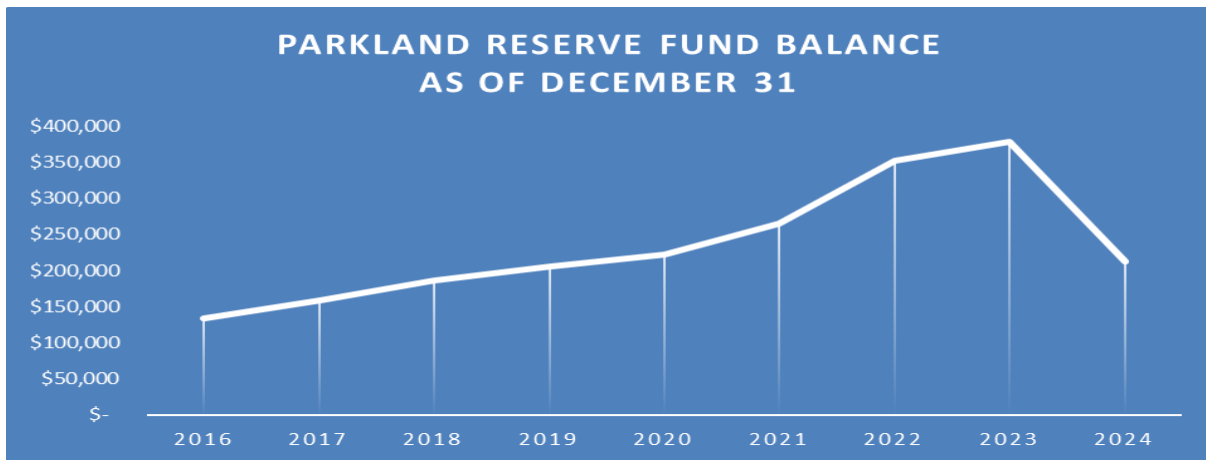


The Parkland Reserve Fund has steadily grown to its highest balance of \$378,048.79 at the beginning of 2024. In 2024, funds were utilized for the purchase of land at 33 and 35 King Street West in Forest, which will be developed into a parkette. As of December 31, 2024, the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund has a balance of \$213,156.95.

Moving forward, these funds will continue to be allocated toward future park or other public recreational purposes in alignment with municipal priorities.

The following graph illustrates how the fund has grown over the period 2016 – 2024:

Figure 2 - Parkland Reserve Fund Balance (2016-2024)



The following statement summarizes the activity within the dedicated reserve fund during 2024.

**Municipality of Lambton Shores
Cash in Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund
Treasurer's Statement Under Section 42 of the Planning Act
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024**

Balance as of January 1, 2024	\$378,048.79
Revenues	
Fees Collected	\$19,700.00
Interest Earned	\$18,453.43
Subtotal	\$38,153.43
Expenditures	
Property Purchase of 33 and 35 King St W	\$203,045.27
Subtotal	\$203,045.27
Balance as of December 31, 2024	\$213,156.95

In order to comply with the requirements of Section 42, this statement must be made available to the public, the statement will be posted on the municipality's website.

In 2022, Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 included the requirement for municipalities to allocate or spend at least 60% of the Cash in Lieu of Parkland Reserve Funds at the beginning of each fiscal year. This provision was enacted to ensure that collected funds are utilized promptly to support infrastructure and community services in line with the *Planning Act's* objectives.

ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER

This report has been prepared to ensure legislative compliance. Council could defer approval, but this would delay compliance with Section 42 of the *Planning Act*.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

That this report be received and the Treasurer's Cash in Lieu of Parkland Statement be approved and posted on the Lambton Shores website.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no direct financial implications associated with Council approving this report, as it is a legislated reporting requirement under Section 42 of the *Planning Act*.

However, the 2024 Treasurer's Statement reflects the expenditure from the Parkland Reserve Fund for the purchase of land at 33 and 35 King Street West in Forest for future park development. This allocation was approved by Council with a recommendation included in Report: CAO 07-2024. While this expenditure has reduced the fund balance, the remaining reserve will continue to support future parkland acquisitions and recreational facility improvements.

CONSULTATION

None