Item 5

16th November 2022

Glasgow Community Planning Partnership
Victoria Park Area Partnership

Report by Stephen Egan, Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability
Contact: Stephen Egan Ext: 75604

Options for use of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Victoria Park

Purpose of Report:

To provide the Partnership with:

1. Options for investment of the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund within Victoria Park as set out within section 3 of this report
2. Advise as to next steps

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Partnership

(1) notes this report;

(2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.

Ward No(s): 12 Citywide:

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Introduction

1.1. The Glasgow City Council 2022/23 budget allocated £1.5 million to Area Partnerships across the city for investment in Parks and Open Spaces. £44,000 of this has been allocated to Victoria Park. The following projects are options for the committee to consider taking forward.

1.2. It should be noted that factoring in procurement and tendering procedures that timescales for development of projects, allocation of spend, and delivery on the ground will vary across the current and next financial year. Whilst project budgets have been proposed based on costs for similar work elsewhere in the city in recent years, with usual contingencies we note current market volatility across a range of products, for example with tarring costs recently reported as increasing by 18%.

1.3. It is noted that there are seasonal windows for certain projects involving planting and habitats, namely:

1.3.1. September and April - seasonal windows for delivery of meadow creation

1.3.2. November -February - seasonal window for delivery of woodland creation and/or woodland management works on the ground

2. Local Engagement

2.1. It is noted that Victoria Park Community Trust have set out, within the progress report page of their website, their strategic development goals and objectives for the park over the coming years highlighting projects and initiatives which will ensure a sustainable long-term future. Views were sought via their launch event 21st September 2021 and via online questionnaire, results of which received so far are currently being collated and are informing the joint working between the Trust and this service.

2.2. Officers from across the Council Family have been working with local communities to build participation and engagement around the use of open spaces, with this work taking an increased importance and a digital form over the last 2 years. This engagement has taken a number of different strands, and has arrived at some early greenspace actions, as well as exploring longer term ideas. This report seeks to provide a summary of engagement to date, details options for these early actions and sets out a timeline for delivery of these options once a decision is made.

2.3. As part of Glasgow's Food Growing Strategy, we have been inviting communities across Glasgow to share with us their ideas for land they consider to be potentially suitable for food growing.

2.4. In May 2020, 917 responses were received from Citizens in relation to survey in relation to the Ecological Emergency, with the top 5 ranked priorities for action being:

- Support planners and developers to step up protection and enhancement of green space and biodiversity
- Work with other public sector landowners to maximise green corridors and pollinator ways through the city

- Increase connections across the city between green spaces, for both people and wildlife Allocate more open space for nature in the city
- Increase planting of native trees and plant species on and around active travel routes

Options for investment, for consideration by the Area Partnership, have been informed by the engagement work set out above set out above, and where selected for action, will form the subject of further engagement.

2.5. At the September meeting of the Area Partnership, a range of projects were approved, totalling £34,100. It was requested that Officers provide further details and breakdown of costs on proposals within the Thornwood area. The Service has been in dialogue with representatives from Love Thornwood to discuss options in relation to this and have received suggested locations for the Partnership's consideration. These are listed under options 1 to 5

2.6 Officers have also since met with members of the community at Marlbrough Avenue and have listed suggested projects below. Other items discussed during this walkround will be progressed under revenue works.

3. Suggested Projects for Area Partnership to Consider

3.1 Options have been costed as follows:

The total allocation for Victoria Park is £44,000. Following the approvals at the September meeting of this partnership, the remaining balance for the ward is **£8,900.**				
Option Number	Location	Proposal	Quantity	Potential Budget
1.	Thornwood – Riverside Resource Centre	X1 Street Tree and bench installed into existing hard surface.	Allowance	£8900
2.	Thornwood - Junction of Rosevale St, Crow Rd and Dumbarton Rd	X1 Street Tree	Item	£8000
3.	Thornwood - At the Junction of Auchentorlie St and Dumbarton Road	X1 Street Tree	Item	£8000
4.	Thornwood - Dumbarton Rd at Sorley St	X1 Bench installed into existing open space.	Item	£2000
5.	Thornwood - Ardery Street	X1 Bench installed into existing open space.	Item	£2000
6.	Marlbrough Avenue	Planting of replacement trees on open space	5 @ £350 per tree	£1750

5 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: This paper outlines options for how capital investment identified as part of the 2022/23 budget process by Glasgow City Council can be allocated within Linn

Legal: None

Personnel: None

Procurement: Early Actions will be procured via existing GCC frameworks

Equality Impacts:

EQIA carried out:

Outcome: -

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: It is considered that the early actions set out in paragraph 3 would contribute to the recommendations of the Climate and Ecological Emergency working groups, and to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Social:

Economic:

6. Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the Partnership

(1) notes this report;

(2) approves funding for its preferred options for the Local Parks & Open Space Improvement Fund to allow for early action and delivery of projects.