Waterloo's Neighbourhood Strategy: Implementation Plan, 2018/2019 to 2023

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Waterloo's Neighbourhood Strategy – Implementation Plan

The Neighbourhood Strategy represents a significant change of scope and increased commitment on the part of the City of Waterloo to support resident-led neighbourhood community building. The strategy is a response to the needs and vision identified by the community. The table below outlines an implementation plan over a five year period starting in 2018/2019. Operating and capital investments required to implement each action in the strategy are noted.

The year of implementation in the table denotes when staff will begin working on each action item. In some cases implementation will take more than a year, or will be an ongoing focus for staff to support improved service delivery. Streamlining processes is an example of an action item where work will be ongoing.

Some action items in the strategy have more than one element for implementation. Distinct elements have been identified separately in the table below to better demonstrate the work the City plans to do and the funding required.

There are many action items that can be achieved within existing budgets. These have been identified by as "NNFR" (No New Funding Required) in the table below.

Some action items will first require start-up work be completed to determine the best approach to respond to community needs before financial impacts can be identified. In these cases, the financial impact has been identified as "undetermined".

The table also notes which City division or unit(s) will be responsible for leading implementation of each action item.

For some action items for implementation in 2018/2019, staff have already started the necessary work. These actions are noted by an asterix (*)

The table below does not speak to staffing requirements.

Table 1: Neighbourhood Strategy Implementation Plan and New Funding Requirements

Note: NNFR = No New Funding Required

Number	Action Components for Implementation	2018/2019 Year 1	2020 Year 2	2021 Year 3	2022 Year 4	2023 Year 5	Corporate Lead
5	*Improve community cohesion in neighbourhoods around post-secondary institutions.	Undetermined					Town and Gown Committee
6	Determine which existing neighbourhood supports are available to Homes Associations and promote to them.	NNFR					Community and Neighbourhood Services
6	*Continue to educate homes associations about the new Special Service/Area Levy Policy.	NNFR					Legislative Services in collaboration with Community and Neighbourhood Services
6	Clarify other options available to Homes Associations beyond the Special Service/Area Levy in relation to their private assets.	Undetermined					IPPW and Legal Services in collaboration with Community and Neighbourhood Services
7	Establish Neighbourhoood Leaders Committee.	NNFR					Community and Neighbourhood Services
7	Establish annual Neighbourhood Summit.	\$5K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services
10	Funding increase for Volunteer Action Centre support.	\$10K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services

Number	Action Components for Implementation	2018/2019 Year 1	2020 Year 2	2021 Year 3	2022 Year 4	2023 Year 5	Corporate Lead
10	Enhanced volunteer recognition.	\$5K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services in collaboration with Volunteer Services
11	Explore options and feasibility of providing access to affordable event equipment	NNFR					Community and Neighbourhood Services
13	Foundational funding increase for Neighbourhood Associations.	\$10K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services
13	Increase funding for in-kind supports for neighbourhood groups.	\$5K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services
14	Initiate micro-grant program.	\$5K operating					Community and Neighbourhood Services with Policy Analyst support
15	*Adopt a "Let's Explore" philosophy.	NNFR					CMT, OLT and Community and Neighbourhood Services
16	*Streamline process and revisit policies to make neighbourhood projects easier.	Undetermined					Community and Neighbourhood Services
18	Explore and articulate the City's risk tolerance position, weighing risk against community benefit.	Undetermined					CMT and OLT in collaboration with Legal Services and Community and Neighbourhood Services

Number	Action Components for Implementation	2018/2019 Year 1	2020 Year 2	2021 Year 3	2022 Year 4	2023 Year 5	Corporate Lead
3	Support for neighbourhood projects in parks such as outdoor rinks and community gardens.		\$15K capital (annually)				Parks and Environment in collaboration with Community and Neighbourhood Services
8	Develop website and online tools.		\$30K capital				Community and Neighbourhood Services in collaboration with Communications
11	Implement equipment program (preferred option).		\$20K capital				Community and Neighbourhood Services
12	Develop asset map of available spaces for each neighbourhood.		NNFR				Community and Neighbourhood Services
12	Work with local school boards to explore ways to improve access to schools.		Undetermined				Community and Neighbourhood Services
17	Enhance bylaw education, prevention, and community collaboration.		\$3K operating				Municipal Enforcement in collaboration with Community and Neighbourhood Services
3	Implement Neighbourhood Community Art Program.			\$10K operating			Arts and Culture in collaboration with Community and Neighbourhood Services
3	Initiate Neighbourhood Name/Identity Program.			\$10K operating			Community and Neighbourhood Services in consultation with IPPW

Number	Action Components for Implementation	2018/2019 Year 1	2020 Year 2	2021 Year 3	2022 Year 4	2023 Year 5	Corporate Lead
4	Inspire those living in multi-unit buildings to connect with their neighbours.			\$3K operating			Community and Neighbourhood Services
8	Ongoing website maintenance and resource development.			\$10K operating			Community and Neighbourhood Services and Communications
1	Start a Neighbourliness Campaign.				\$10K operating		Community and Neighbourhood Services in collaboration with Municipal Enforcement
10	Provide additional volunteer related training.				\$5K operating		Community and Neighbourhood Services
2	Support neighbourhoods seeking to build stronger relationships through a program that sparks neighbourhood community-building.					\$10K operating	Community and Neighbourhood Services
9	Build resident capacity to organize and lead neighbourhood initiatives.					\$15K operating	Community and Neighbourhood Services
13	Consider need for increased funding in 2023 budget for all types of neighbourhood grants and other neighbourhood strategy initiatives based on community use/demand					\$30K operating	Community and Neighbourhood Services

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