



January 23, 2014

To: Ward 1 Residents and Community Members

From: Ward 1 Participatory Budgeting Advisory Committee (PBAC)  
Ward 1 Councillor Brian McHattie, PBAC Chair

**Re: Results of the 2013 PBAC Process**

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The Participatory Budget Advisory Committee (PBAC) is a committee chaired by the Ward 1 Councillor to assist in the collection of community enhancement project ideas and a process of collecting votes for desired projects in order to allocate an annual Ward 1 Area Rating budget of \$1.5 million. The PBAC process is in its second year of operation. PBAC membership is voluntary requiring attendance and work commitment for the committee and some sub-committee meetings to complete an annual cycle.

The annual PBAC cycle involves a communication campaign and call for project proposals. In 2013, this resulted in 429 projects being submitted. PBAC reviewed the submissions to identify qualifying projects (information regarding project qualifications is posted on the website: [www.forward1.ca](http://www.forward1.ca)). Some of the projects were streamlined or merged with other similar or same submissions resulting in 85 unique projects being presented back to the Ward 1 community to vote on (for more information on how projects were streamlined please refer to the full report posted online at [www.forward1.ca](http://www.forward1.ca)).

The Ward 1 voting process was open from October 1<sup>st</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> resulting in 1,264 responses, of which 140 of the responses were received by paper ballot. Individuals were asked to submit their top 5 preferred projects in order of importance. The results were then weighted and scored. Project scores ranges from a high of 820 points to 7 points. The total votes received showed that almost all respondents provided 5 project votes per submission.

A full disclosure of the 85 projects and the points received by project is available in the full report online. The PBAC reviewed the report in December to allocate funds. The table on the next page show the projects to be funded in 2014.

**Considerations for 2014:**

The PBAC process will be entering its third cycle and has learned a lot based upon community feedback. At this stage there is an opportunity to make further adjustments to the process for 2014. Enclosed below are a number of questions that the PBAC have generated for feedback:

1. Should there be an age requirement in order to vote?  
*Currently there is no age restriction. Further, PBAC would like to encourage elementary and high school student participation in community enhancement needs.*
2. Should it be mandatory to vote on 5 projects per submission?  
*Currently, the voting process is open and flexible, meaning that individuals can vote on 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 projects per submission. No one is forced to select 5 projects in order to make a submission.*
3. Should votes be weighted for the scoring?  
*Currently votes are weighted meaning a higher score is assigned to projects ranked higher. Removal of the weighting and introduction of simple vote counts is an alternative.*
4. Should the postcard communication notice process continue?  
*Postcards, community posters, bookmarks, newspaper ads, and social media such as the website, facebook, and twitter accounts are the current communication vehicles used by PBAC.*



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<b>Ward 1 2014 Area Rating Recommendation</b>			
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>\$ Allocated</b>
1	Lunch/Breakfast programs at local schools	820	80,000
2	Food4Kids school nutrition programs	694	40,000
3	Bike lanes on York Blvd between Dundurn and Downtown	627	100,000
4	Alleyway Improvements (link, pave, beautify)	622	100,000
5	All of Ward 1: calming strips/speed bumps, zebra/ladder crosswalks	620	200,000
6	Artificial turf at Westdale High School	585	100,000
7	Churchill Park: Lawn Bowling Club renovation	526	50,000
8	Bike lanes on Longwood Road North	477	50,000
9	Pedestrian bridge at north end of Locke to the Waterfront Trail *	475	0
10	Beautify Ward 1 Neighbourhoods (flower beds, irrigation, planters, bollards)	460	50,000
11	Convert Dalewood and Ryerson to salt water pools	450	25,000
12	Recycling bins across the ward	434	10,000
13	\$100,000 to be saved towards infrastructure for social and exercise activity centres dedicated for seniors	405	100,000
14	Main/Dundurn and King/Dundurn: pedestrianize intersections	346	10,000
15	Bike racks across Ward 1	<b>335</b>	25,000
16	Purchase Prince Philip School*	<b>325</b>	0
17	Partners in Nutrition/TASTEBUDS school nutrition programs – combined with Rank 1 & 2	303	0
18	HAAA: splash pad	288	25,000
24	Locke @ Hunter: pedestrian activated crosswalk	257	150,000
25	Improvements to Emerson Street (lighting, bike lanes, widen sidewalks, flowers and trees)	255	60,000
49	Alexander Park: replace pool with splash pad	116	25,000
	<b>Investment Fund</b>		<b>300,000</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,500,000</b>

\*\$300,000 in 2013 funding has been added to \$300,000 saved in 2012 for large projects, such as the potential items marked above.