

Greenwood Cemetery Master Plan

February 19, 2020



Ontario Canada



Agenda

- Tonight:
 - Process and Methodology
 - 16 Recommendations: Appendix 8
 - Implementing Natural Burials
 - CS-20-023 Recommendation
 - Questions

Introduction - Project Team

- Adam Parsons, Manger of Parks and Open Space – Project Lead
- Amanda Tennant-Bumstead, Parks and Cemetery Administrative Coordinator - Project Research and Administration
- Kristan Shrider, Senior Manager of Parks and Property – Consultation, Facilities Expert
- Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services – Strategic Direction and Consultation, Policy Expertise

Why do a review?

- Ensure continuity of service delivery to the community, and to guide decision makers in ensuring the Cemetery is viable into the next century;
- Ensure the needs and expectations of families and funeral service providers are being met;
- Ensure that the Cemetery, can respond to the changing ways that the interment of a loved one can be celebrated and in part;
- Examine the lifespan and sustainability of Greenwood Cemetery.

Methodology

- A review of interment statistics 2012-2018;
- Compared Greenwood Cemetery statistics to provincial trends;
- Reviewed industry trends and best practices;
- Analyzed administrative services, Cemetery operations, the physical layout and function of the Cemetery for strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Plan structure

- Community Profile
- Glossary of Terms
- 1.0 Background
- 2.0 Statistics and Industry Trends
- 3.0 Public Input
- 4.0 Themes and Recommendations

Plan Structure

- 4.0 Themes and Recommendations
 - 16 Recommendations, Categorized into 3 Key themes:
 - Interment Options
 - Administration, Operations and Grounds
 - Buildings and Maintenance

Plan Structure

- 5.0 Appendices
 - Appendix 8- Summary Of Recommendations

Appendix 8

Buildings and Maintenance

Recommendation		Follow Up Report Required	By-law Amendment Required	Regulator Approval Required	I support the recommendation (Highest aggregate survey result is indicated in BOLD).		This recommendation should be considered a: (Highest aggregate survey result is indicated in BOLD . Recommended prioritization indicated by green background)			Rationale	Implementation Plan
4.2.13	Develop a Business Case for the Restoration of the Chapel, Including Indoor Columbaria and Contemplative Space	✓	✓	✓	79%	21%	34%	18%	48%	Based on the City's 5 year capital plan, a chapel renovation is currently being considered after 2020. The timing of the recommendation reflects the anticipated renovation pending budget approval, aligned with the timing provided in the City's 2020 5 year capital forecast	1) Develop a business case to support a chapel renovation that includes indoor columbaria; 2) Retain a design/engineering consultant to assess the structure and provide renovation construction design; 3) A design will be submitted as a future capital budget request; 4) Pending the outcome of the capital budget request, tender and contract the renovation.
4.2.14	Leverage the City's Asset Management Plan to Ensure Critical Maintenance of Cemetery Buildings is Identified and Addressed in the City's 10-year Capital Forecast				93%	7%	33%	18%	49%	The province mandates that Municipalities in Ontario will establish an asset management plan. The timing of this recommendation aligns with the City's overall asset management plan goals, and some building assets have been included in the City's asset management system. This recommendation supports continuing those activities.	1) Collect non-core asset data and enter into the City's Asset management plan and asset management system
4.2.15	Explore the Designation of Greenwood Cemetery Buildings under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act Following the Renovation of the Chapel	✓			73%	27%	32%	19%	49%	A chapel renovation is included in the City's 2021 capital budget forecast. Pending the outcome of 4.2.13, and the completion of a renovation in 2021, The City will explore the designation under part IV of the act after 2021.	1) Pending successful completion of 4.2.13 and construction of an approved chapel renovation design, submit the Chapel, Mausoleum, and Cemetery office for designation under part IV of the heritage act after 2022.

Appendix 8

Recommendation	Follow Up Report Required	By-law Amendment Required	Regulator Approval Required
4.2.1	Create a natural burials section including by-law amendment establishing physical dimensions, location and rules for permissible aspects.	✓	✓



Appendix 8

I support the recommendation (Highest aggregate survey result is indicated in BOLD).	
Yes (%)	No (%)
85%	15%

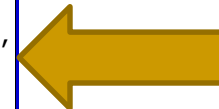


Appendix 8

This recommendation should be considered a: (Highest aggregate survey result is indicated in BOLD . Recommended prioritization indicated by green background)		
Short Term (1-3 years)	Medium Term (2-4 years)	Long term (3-5 years)
37%	13%	50%

Appendix 8

Rationale	Implementation Plan
<p>How was the recommendaiton for implementaiton timeline selected?</p>	<p>What are the principal steps for implementing the recommendaiton?</p>
<p>Based on input gathered throughout the master plan process, community interest in establishing a natural burials section is sufficient to develop a plan and implement in the next 1-3 years.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The City will strive to align policies, bylaws and operating values for a natural burials section with The recommendations of The Green Burial Society of Canada; 2) Greenwood Gardens Ranges 44 and 44A, a total of 82 lots, will be designated as a natural burials section; 3) A detailed landscape and naturalization plan will be developed and brought to CSC for consultation, including a recommended native planting list, granular walkways and a central monument for the purpose of memorializing those who have chosen to be interred in the natural burials section; 4) A bylaw amendment will be brought forward to support operations and administration specific to natural burials at greenwood cemetery.



Recommendation Prioritization Survey

- Released January 7, 2020
- Closed February 1st
- 130 Responses

Recommendation Prioritization Survey

- Asked 2 Questions for each of the 16 Recommendations
 - Do you Support the Recommendation
 - Should the Recommendation be implemented in the:
 - Short Term (1-3 years)
 - Medium Term (2-4 years)
 - Long Term (3-5 Years)

Recommendation Prioritization Survey

- 2 Themes emerged from the survey responses:
 - Support for all 16 Recommendations
 - A preference that all 16 recommendations be implemented in the long term prioritization window

Natural Burials

- Natural burials have been a dominant theme throughout the master plan process

Natural Burials

- Currently Permitted:
 - Simple wood caskets with no metal fasteners are available in local funeral homes.
 - In Ontario remains are not required to be embalmed, and the Greenwood Cemetery By-law does not require embalming.

Natural Burials

- ❑ No vault is required in certain sections at Greenwood Cemetery.
- ❑ Monuments are not required at Greenwood Cemetery.
- ❑ Generally, it is the practice at Greenwood Cemetery not to use pesticides.

Natural Burials

■ Next Steps

- ❑ Align with the Green Burial Society of Canada (GBSC)
- ❑ Short Term- Work to Achieve Category 1 Certified Green Burial Service Provider
- ❑ Develop a Landscape Plan

Natural Burials- Hybrid Model

- A **Hybrid** Model for Natural Burials is recommended for Greenwood Cemetery
 - A section created within a cemetery designated for natural burials.

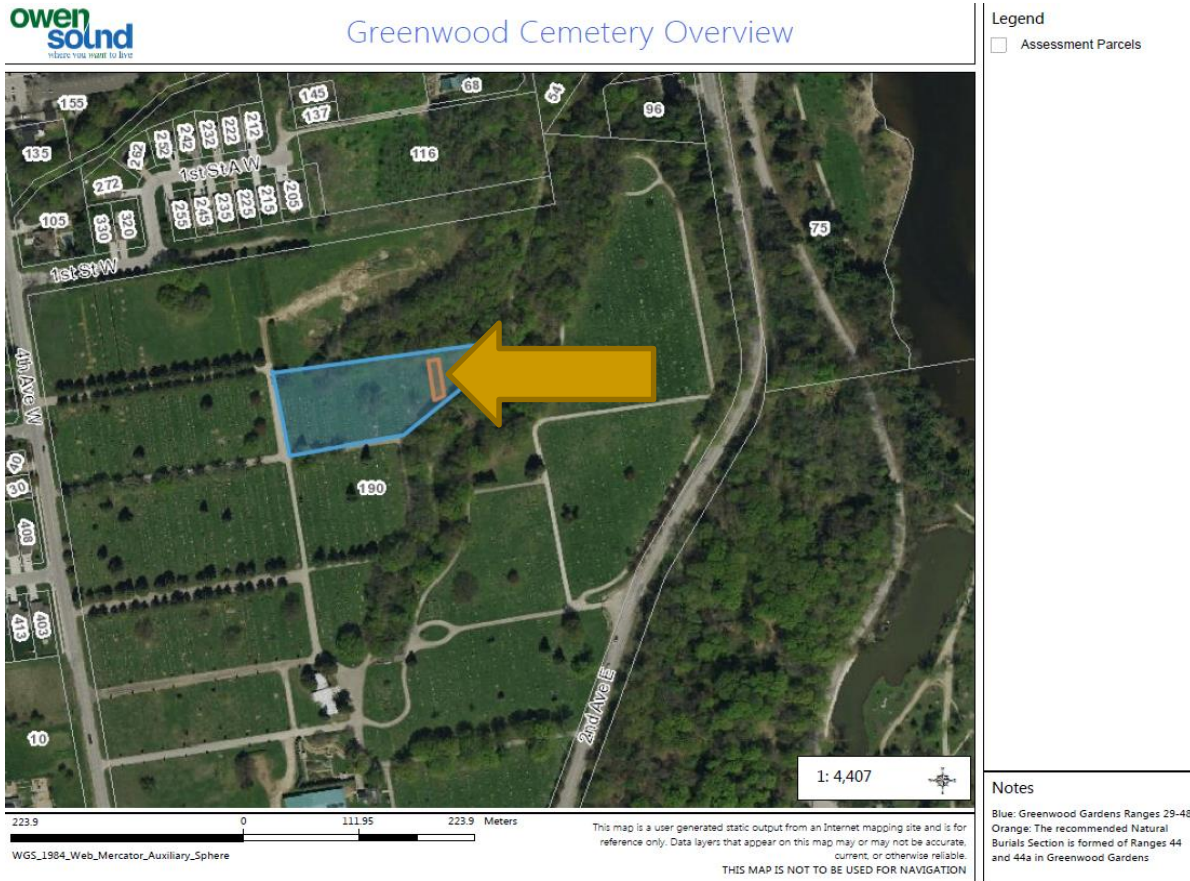
Natural Burials – Next Steps

1) The City will strive to align policies, by-laws and operating values for a natural burials section with the recommendations of The Green Burial Society of Canada;

Natural Burials – Next Steps

2) Greenwood Gardens Ranges 44 and 44A, a total of 82 lots, will be designated as a natural burials section;

Natural Burials – Next Steps



Natural Burials – Next Steps



Greenwood Gardens Ranges 29-48



56.0 0 27.99 56.0 Meters
WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.
THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Legend

- Assessment Parcels

Notes

The recommended Natural Burials Section is formed of Ranges 44 and 44a in Greenwood Gardens



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Natural Burials – Next Steps

3) A detailed landscape and naturalization plan will be developed and brought to CSC for consultation, including a recommended native planting list, granular walkways and a central monument for the purpose of memorializing those who have chosen to be interred in the natural burials section;

Natural Burials – Next Steps



Natural Burials – Next Steps



Natural Burials – Next Steps

- 4) A by-law amendment will be brought forward to support operations and administration specific to natural burials at greenwood cemetery.

Natural Burials – Next Steps

- A by-law amendment will be required to address:
 - How a body is prepared prior to interment;
 - The minimum container specifications;
 - How and when the Natural Burial section will be progressively naturalized;

Natural Burials – Next Steps

- ❑ Details of a communal memorial to be placed at the Natural Burials section;
- ❑ What will not be permitted in the Natural Burials Section; and
- ❑ What will be required by the City in order to permit storage of remains if a natural burial cannot be performed in a timely manner due to unsafe excavation conditions.

Natural Burials - Implementation Costs

- Green Burial Society of Canada Category 1 Green Burial Service Provider Certification and Membership Fees \$475 from the City's approved 2020 operating budget.
- A capital request as a part of the City's 2021 Capital Budget process to retain a Landscape architect for the purpose of designing a landscape plan for the Natural Burial Section in alignment with the ideals of the Green Burial Society of Canada, estimated \$2,000.00.
- A capital request as a part of the City's 2022 Capital Budget process to retain a contractor to install approved elements of a natural burials section landscape plan such as a central monument, walkways and shrubs.
- An operating budget request in 2021 for Cemetery plant materials to support the planting of native ground covers as naturalization occurs.
- Development of a fee structure for natural burials.

Questions?



CS-20-023 Recommendation

That in consideration of Staff Report CS-20-023 respecting the Greenwood Cemetery Master Plan Recommendations Survey and Next Steps, Community Services Committee recommends Council:

- 1) Approve the 2020-2024 Greenwood Cemetery Master Plan; and
- 2) Request staff bring forward a By-law to amend the Greenwood Cemetery By-law to implement the recommendations as outlined in Appendix 8 of the Master Plan (Attachment 6).

Resources

- BAO - <https://thebao.ca/>
- Funeral Burial and Cremation Services Act - <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/02f33>
- Project Website - <https://www.owensound.ca/en/city-hall/greenwood-cemetery-master-plan.aspx>

Thank you

