



# **COLLINGWOOD LAKESHORE ESTATES**

## **Green Space Beautification Contest – Proposal**

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To: Collingwood Community  
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### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Collingwood has a large Municipal Reserve 3 (aka the Green Space) running the middle to north border of the community. (See Appendix A graphic & B Google Images).

In 2012 Collingwood paid a professional landscape design company to prepare a plan for this Green Space (see Appendix C plan secured by Marilyn LaBatte).

Collingwood has invested an estimated \$5,000 on trees for the Green Space and relied on a few gracious volunteers to plant and maintain the trees. In many cases the trees died. Some died because they weren't appropriate for the area which tends to be hot, windy, alkaline and marsh-like in spots. Some trees didn't survive because they probably needed more 'special attention' in the formative first 3 years until established.

Some of the trees were purchased from vendors that had a flexible return policy (e.g., Costco, Unique Gardens) so Collingwood recouped some of the money spent the year after initial planting.

### **GOAL**

The Collingwood Green Space is an underutilized blank slate. Collingwood should continue to landscape the Green Space into a park that could provide adequate shaded areas, potential wind breaks and aesthetically pleasing landscaping. Eventually when tree/shrub beds are established crusher dust paths can be added to increase the active living/walking areas in Collingwood.

### **PROPOSAL**

That Collingwood hold a 3-year Green Space Beautification Contest. In 6ish groups, 2-6 Collingwood community members prepare, plant and nurture a garden bed in the Green Space for a 3-year period.

Contest volunteers are strongly encouraged to consult the 2012 landscape plan attached as a guide but also to use common sense as to the location of your garden bed and the plants included. Look around Collingwood to see which trees and shrubs are going to thrive after the contest is over in 3 years.

Also included in this landscape proposal is the Municipal Reserve playground on Gordon Drive, south end of Collingwood where 5 transplanted evergreens need some TLC and companion plants.

## **RULES for the Green Space Beautification Contest might include the following:**

- 1) Contest starts January 2020 and ends Labour Day weekend 2023.
- 2) Garden bed should be guided by the contest theme: “Contrasting Shapes and Shade”.
- 3) Minimum size for garden bed 100 sq. feet (e.g., 10x10) to max. 500 sq. feet. Irregular shaped garden beds and planting in odd numbers tend to be more aesthetically pleasing.
- 4) Garden bed must be clearly labelled with a creative name for the team or design.
- 5) Trees and shrubs must be included in the garden bed. Non-invasive perennials are optional. Annuals not permitted.
- 6) Hardscaping materials, the non-living landscape elements made of stone, bricks, concrete, or metal, are permitted. Such items should be durable. Upcycling of materials strongly encouraged.
- 7) Xeriscaping should be considered in the planning and longer-term maintenance of the bed. Ground covers of mulch or other materials helps to retain moisture, prevent weeds and provide warmth to plants and young roots.
- 8) The garden bed should be designed to easily be mowed around. Edging that cannot be mowed around or over should not be used.
- 9) Permanent sprinkler systems in garden beds are not permitted. Rain barrels are permitted.
- 10) Update of each named garden bed will be shared at Collingwood spring and fall community meetings.
- 11) Judges panel of 4 people will be appointed by Collingwood Board.

The criteria and final score weighting might be:

- 25% on the overall attractiveness of garden (generally living plants are more attractive)
- 25% on the creativity of design
- 25% on the promotion of theme ‘Contrasting Shapes and Shade’
- 25% on the photo quality and design description/story at end of contest

**Contest Prize** – Winning gardeners get to name the Collingwood Green Space – park. (*\*\*Needs approval of Collingwood Board – a.k.a. community\*\**).

### **BUDGET:** (*\*\*Needs approval by Collingwood Board & RM Council\*\**)

Year 1 – \$1,500 per bed; Year 2 - \$500 per bed; Year 3 - \$500 per bed

Costs can include: trees, shrubs (purchasing at vendors offering plant guarantees strongly encouraged), fertilizer, mulch, landscape staking & covering products, hardscaping materials, signage, edging, winter wrap, rain barrels. All receipts must be submitted to Board for reimbursement.

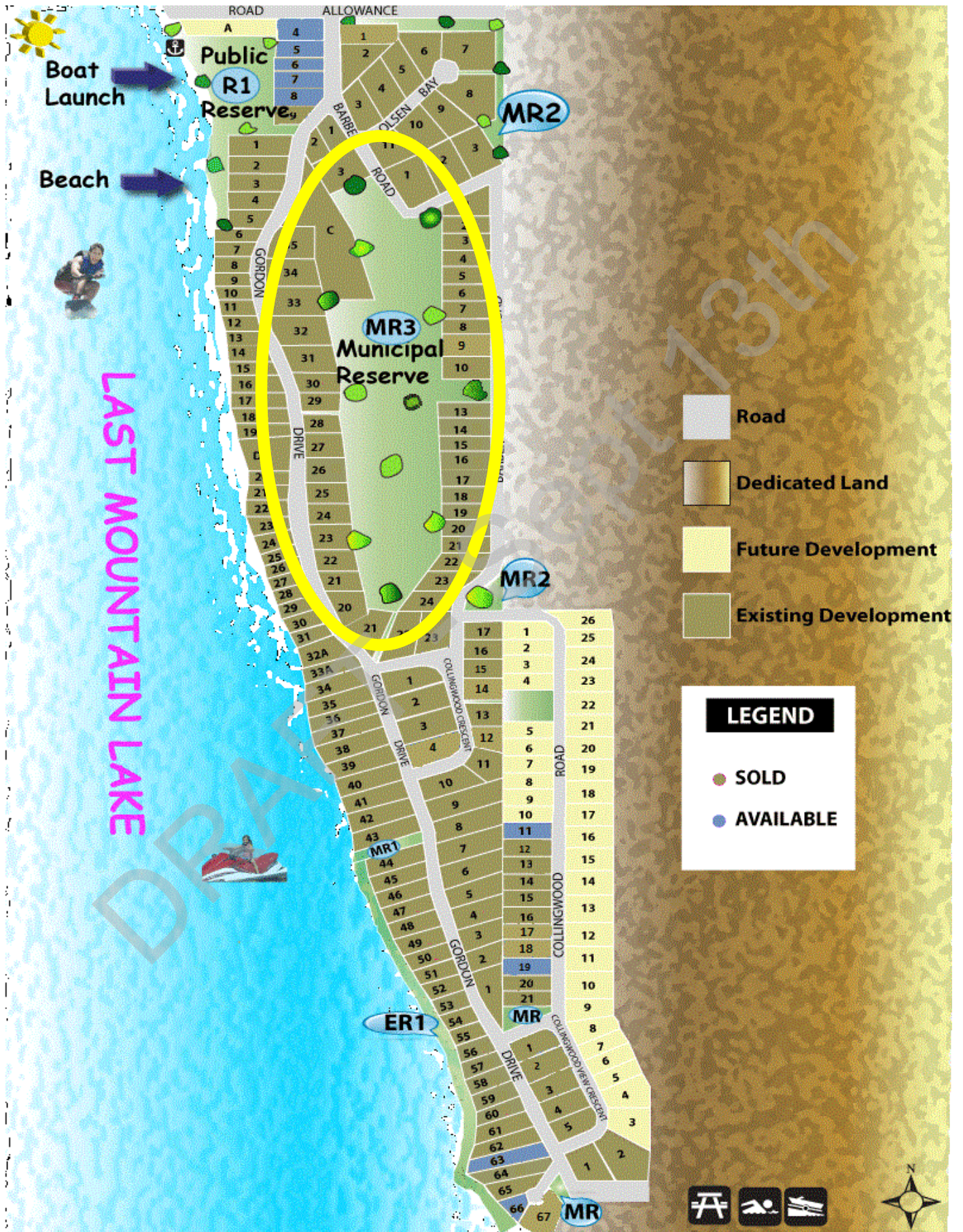
Costs not covered: gardening tools, transport costs of materials, transplanting of vegetation already established in Collingwood, Ibuprofen for aching backs

Water tank available in Green Space for cooperative filling and sharing.

**TOTAL COST FOR POTENTIALLY 6 GARDEN BEDS OVER 3 YEARS ~ \$15,000**



## Collingwood Green Space - 2019





# Collingwood

Google Images

2019

Green Space Area  
Municipal Reserve

