Executive Summary:

This report is a follow-up to the April 5, 2016 Council motion contained in the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee Report Number 45 requesting staff to investigate potential future locations within Kingston for the steam launch Phoebe, a civic collection is currently housed and displayed at the Pump House Steam Museum and to bring back a recommendation regarding a detailed plan, budget and schedule by September 2016. Council also approved the removal of the Phoebe to storage and the dismantling of the exhibit shelter prior to the start of construction of the Pump House Steam Museum expansion.

Since that time, Cultural Services staff have met with several groups, including representatives from the Friends of the Phoebe, staff from Recreation & Leisure Services and representatives from Parks Canada to discuss potential short and long-term solutions for the Phoebe, including both City-owned and non City-owned sites, evaluation criteria and potential timelines.

As a result of these meetings, Cultural Services staff identified one short-term and three long-term options for the housing and display of the Phoebe. The short-term option relocates the vessel temporarily to Portsmouth Olympic Harbour. Staff from Recreation & Leisure Services have confirmed such a move could occur as early as September 2016, prior to the start of construction at the Pump House Steam Museum. Only minor alterations to the building are required to improve the display area and protect the boat and this option will not impede the current visioning exercise being facilitated. Once relocated, the Phoebe could remain in place until redevelopment plans are approved and ready for implementation or another long-term option becomes viable. Placement of the Phoebe at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour coincides with Council’s approval on June 29, 2016 to temporarily relocate the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston to the same site, thus reinforcing a marine history context for the boat.
One long-term option that has been identified would see the Phoebe placed in a newly designed and constructed shelter within An Gorta Mor Park beside the Pump House Steam Museum. This park is scheduled for improvement in the Waterfront Master Plan, priority ranking 26 of 137. The timeline for the park’s redevelopment will be reviewed by Recreation and Leisure Services in 2017 to see if it can be accelerated and considered in the 2017 capital budget. If approved by Council, future planning for the site will include the Phoebe as a park feature. This option satisfies the Council motion to consider possible locations for the Phoebe at or near the Pump House Steam Museum where it has been housed.

A second long-term option that has been identified would see the Phoebe placed as a heritage and marine history feature of a redeveloped Portsmouth Olympic Harbour/Kingston Penitentiary precinct. In this instance, staff will have to wait to see if this option is brought forward during the current public visioning process for the two sites before initiating a full investigation of schedules and costs.

A third long-term option that has been identified would see the Phoebe offered on loan to Parks Canada as part of its planned redevelopment of Jones Falls Lock. Federal departmental staff have expressed interest in adding the Phoebe to the site’s cultural heritage offerings. Parks Canada will be making significant improvements to this Rideau Canal location over the next five to eight years to create a historically-themed destination with a broad spectrum of activities and experiences supported by enhanced visitor amenities and heritage interpretation of the site’s military, industrial, water and steam power, rural life and transportation connections.

Recreation and Leisure Services staff have also confirmed interest in reusing the custom-designed post and beam structure within which the Phoebe has been displayed in Grass Creek Park sometime in the next two years. Staff estimate the reassembly of the shelter and associated site development to prepare the space will cost in the range of $150,000 - $200,000. This work will not affect the approved schedule for the Waterfront Master Plan redevelopment of Grass Creek Park. In the meantime, the disassembled shelter will be removed from the Pump House Steam Museum grounds and stored at a City-owned location in September 2016. The cost of $60,000 to disassemble, wrap and transport the shelter to a temporary storage location will be covered through existing capital budgets.

**Recommendations:**

That Council approve the temporary relocation of the Phoebe to Portsmouth Olympic Harbour to allow safe storage and public display of the vessel until this site is either required for redevelopment or a suitable a long-term location becomes available; and

That staff be directed to investigate the following three options for long-term options for the relocation of the Phoebe and to report back to Council at a future date:

**Option 1:** The Phoebe be placed within An Gorta Mor Park in accordance with approved plans in the Waterfront Master Plan. The timeline for the park’s redevelopment will be reviewed by Recreation and Leisure Services;
Option 2: The Phoebe be included as a feature of a redeveloped Portsmouth Olympic Harbour/Kingston Penitentiary precinct as may be identified in the current visioning process; and

Option 3: The Phoebe be offered as a loan from the City of Kingston to Parks Canada for its redeveloped Rideau Canal site at Jones Falls.
Authorizeing Signatures:

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER**
Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**
Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

**Consultation with the following Commissioners:**
Denis Leger, Corporate & Emergency Services  Not required
Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston  Not required
Desiree Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer  Not required
Options/Discussion:
The Phoebe has been a high profile artifact within the City of Kingston’s civic collection since 1978. This 14.6 metre-long steam-powered launch was built in Kingston in 1914 by the Davis Dry Dock Company, an example of Edwardian pleasure craft created for wealthy clients. In 1978, a group of local volunteers known as the Frontenac Society of Model Engineers (FSME) arranged for Federal funding to repatriate the Phoebe to Kingston on behalf of the Pump House Steam Museum. In 1998, a group of volunteers formed the Friends of the Phoebe to spearhead a major restoration of the vessel that was completed in 2003. In 2006, the Friends of the Phoebe worked with Museum staff to construct a custom-built trailer to transport the Phoebe when required and in 2007 and 2008 to construct a new shelter on the grounds of the Museum. The Phoebe has been housed at this location since that time.

Council Motion
At its April 5, 2016 meeting, City Council passed the following motion regarding the long-term plans for the civic collection artifact, the steam launch Phoebe, currently housed at the Pump House Steam Museum:

Whereas the Museums and Collections Advisory Committee and the Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee provided direction on the options for which further feasibility study should be conducted in order for staff to bring a recommendation to Council regarding a long-term plan for the steam launch Phoebe;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Phoebe be removed to storage and the exhibit shelter be dismantled prior to start of the construction of the expansion to the Pump House Steam Museum; and

That the Phoebe be re-located and displayed within the city of Kingston including the Pump House Steam Museum; and

That pending Council approval, staff be directed to prepare a detailed plan, budget and schedule supporting the implementation of the selected proposal and to report back to Council by September, 2016.

This motion, contained in Arts, Recreation and Community Policies Committee Report Number 45 to Council, was written in response to the staff report to the former Museums and Collections Advisory Committee (MACAC-16-001) describing proposed long-term plans for the Phoebe.

Site Investigation Process
Since the April 5, 2016 Council meeting, Cultural Services staff have met with several groups, including representatives of the Friends of the Phoebe, staff from Recreation and Leisure Services and representatives from Parks Canada to discuss potential short and long-term solution for the Phoebe, including both City-owned and non City-owned sites. The list of potential sites included:
Consideration of each site included criteria such as availability of the site; accessibility; options for heritage interpretation; security, care and maintenance requirements; services available (electrical); geotechnical and site analysis requirements; private, public or City ownership; requirement for and timelines associated with new construction; zoning; public consultation; financial resources available; and long-term sustainability of the site. Preference was given to sites under City or public control, with associated staff supervision and interpretation, that are appropriately sized to accommodate the Phoebe, and that have not already been identified for other purposes.

Site Options Identified
As a result of these meetings, Cultural Services staff identified one short-term and three long-term options for the housing and display of the Phoebe.

Short-Term Option
The short-term option relocates the vessel temporarily to the Sail Room in Portsmouth Olympic Harbour. Recreation & Leisure Services staff have confirmed this move could occur as early as September 2016, prior to the start of construction at the Pump House Steam Museum, and will not impact current uses of the building. Only minor alterations to the Sail Room such as improved exhibit lighting and window protection to control ultraviolet light levels are required to improve the display area and protect the boat. This option will not impede the current visioning exercise and the Phoebe could remain in place at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour until redevelopment plans are approved and ready for implementation or a long-term option becomes viable. Placement of the Phoebe at Portsmouth Olympic Harbour coincides with Council’s approval on June 29, 2016 to temporarily relocate the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston to the same site, thus reinforcing a marine history context for the boat.
Long-Term Options
Option 1 - An Gorta Mor Park:
This long-term option would see the Phoebe placed in a newly designed and constructed shelter within An Gorta Mor Park beside the Pump House Steam Museum. This park is scheduled for improvement in the Waterfront Master Plan, priority ranking 26 of 137. The timeline for the park’s redevelopment will be reviewed by Recreation and Leisure Services which will include 2017 capital budget consideration. If this option is approved by Council, future planning for the site will include the Phoebe as a park feature. By integrating the Museum and the Phoebe into the park redevelopment plan, this option creates a new cultural heritage museum precinct and also satisfies the Council motion to consider locations at or near the Museum.

Option 2 - Portsmouth Olympic Harbour/Kingston Penitentiary:
The second long-term option would see the Phoebe placed as a heritage and marine history feature as part of a redeveloped Portsmouth Olympic Harbour/Kingston Penitentiary precinct. Staff will need to wait and see if this option is brought forward during the current public visioning process for the two sites before initiating a full investigation of schedules and costs. If this becomes the eventual long-term option for the Phoebe, it is likely that the boat will have to be removed and placed temporarily in storage until the completion of the site redevelopment project.

Option 3 - Jones Falls Lock, Parks Canada:
The third long-term option would see the Phoebe offered as a loan to Parks Canada as part of their proposed redevelopment of Jones Falls Lock. Federal departmental staff have expressed interest in adding the Phoebe to the site’s cultural heritage offerings as part of the improvements being planned for this location over the next five to eight years to create a historically-themed destination with a broad spectrum of activities and experiences supported by enhanced visitor amenities and heritage interpretation of the site’s military, industrial, water and steam power, rural life and transportation connections. Parks Canada plans to animate the site both on land and on water, including offering visitors the chance to experience operating vessels and “locking-through” (largely through use of historically accurate reproductions), from Durham Boats to Edwardian steam launches. These features will support on-site historic asset and artifact interpretation. The Jones Falls site has a considerable land base and a large number of existing historical assets from which to draw upon. As an active historic site, Parks Canada sees such a setting of potential interest to museum partners, including the City of Kingston and its civic collection. Staff feel this option is worthy of consideration as it would fulfill Council’s mandate to see the Phoebe displayed and interpreted in a sympathetic context at the refurbished Jones Falls site, even if the vessel were eventually to be located a short distance outside of City limits proper.

Sites Recommendations
As a result of this investigation, staff will report back to Council at a future date following the completion of the Portsmouth Olympic Harbour/Kingston Penitentiary visioning process and following an assessment of the current Waterfront Master Plan schedule as approved in relation to the redevelopment of An Gorta Mor Park with a recommended option, budget and implementation schedule.
Phoebe Shelter
Recreation & Leisure Services staff have confirmed interest in reusing the Phoebe’s current shelter in Grass Creek Park, sometime in the next two years. Staff note the shelter’s quality post and beam structure, its adaptability for other purposes, and its history as a community volunteer project as reasons for saving the structure for another City purpose. Staff estimate that the reassembly of the shelter and associated site development to prepare the space will cost in the range of $150,000 - $200,000. This work will not affect the approved schedule for the Waterfront Master Plan redevelopment of Grass Creek Park.

Until the new site is prepared, the disassembled shelter will be removed from the Pump House Steam Museum grounds and stored at a City-owned location in September 2016. The cost of $60,000 to disassemble, wrap and transport the shelter to a temporary storage location will be covered through existing capital budgets.

Existing Policy/By-Law:
Consolidated Civic Collection & Municipal Museums Policies (AP-13-022)

Notice Provisions:
Not applicable

Accessibility Considerations:
Not applicable

Financial Considerations:
With Council approval, the costs of $60,000 associated with the disassembly, packaging and transport of the Phoebe shelter to temporary City-owned storage will be paid from existing capital budgets. The costs to prepare the Phoebe for transport, to relocate the vessel from the Pump House Steam Museum to Portsmouth Olympic Harbour and to adapt the new space to display the boat will be covered using existing budgets held by Cultural Services that have been approved. The two Phoebe-related endowment funds held by the Community Foundation for Kingston and Area will remain intact. Annual interest from these funds will continue to be held in a designated City reserve fund and used for major conservation projects. Budgeting associated with the two long-term options will be included in the development plans for these projects.

Contacts:
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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

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Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development, Recreation & Leisure Services
Paul Robertson, City Curator, Cultural Services
Sarah Forsyth, Civic Collections Technician, Cultural Services
Gordon Robinson, Curator, Pump House Steam Museum

Exhibits Attached:

Not applicable