

I have become aware of a Parks and Recreation project to redesign the Oakville Town square at a cost of 4.5M\$

I am asking that this budget item be deferred and reconsidered based on the following concerns

1. Safety The NAK design illustrates the inclusion of a water attraction that would present a dangerous drowning hazard for small children.. fencing would no alleviate the danger

The <https://www.bradfordtoday.ca/towninfo/shallow-water-safety-misconceptions-9335710> clearly explains the issue . The Town of course would be liable for any such drowning.

2. Winter operation would not be feasible and there would be and extensive maintenance/pressure washing effort to ensure the features cleanliness (Dogs Litter Leaves sludge etc)
3. The inclusion of this feature and others as shown in the NAK report would minimise the available free gathering space and restrict the use of the square for only small events (e.g. outdoor theatre or entertainment)
4. Concrete ...Many are agreed that we have enough hard scape in the downtown community such that the removal of grass sitting areas should be avoided
5. Although not as visible I would suggest the budgeted funds of 4.5M\$ be directed to the many really needy causes in the Oakville  
e.g ( <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/explore/charities/region/ON/city/oakville/?version=2> ) or ( <https://oakvillefoodbank.com/> )

At the very minimum I would ask that this budget item as designed be sent back to the Parks Dept for a complete review and allowing for residential and business owner inputs to be considered

Your Truly  
Alastair Wilson

NAK has been hired by the Town to transform the Square to be modern, functional and to reflect the character of the vibrant downtown.

<https://www.nakdesignstrategies.com/projects/oakville-towne-square/>

