

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE REQUEST:**

Staff report on the feasibility of a hybrid library option in Bronte Market Square.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- That the information be received.

### **KEY FACTS:**

- The draft 2024 Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan recommends a review of options and locations for enhanced library services within the Bronte area and vicinity, including the potential to add a library branch at QEPCCC to be triggered when the population reaches 300,000.
- Bronte Village is currently served by Woodside Branch (approx. 3km) and a OPL Express at QEPCCC (approx. 2km) along with programming offered within Bronte Village itself.
- A review of service gaps to Bronte along with a full review of Woodside's catchment area is needed to determine whether a Bronte branch is needed and if so, it most appropriate location.

### **COMMENTS/OPTIONS:**

Bronte Village approximately three km away from the Woodside Branch, but only approximately two km from QEPCCC. The distance to the Woodside Branch is just beyond the service radii applied through the Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan: two km (for neighbourhood branches) and 2.5 km (community branches). OPL also offers summer programming at Bronte Heritage Waterfront Park and a book club in partnership with Taste of Columbia. With this context, Southwest Oakville – including Bronte Village – has a similar level of access to library services as many other areas within the town, particularly when per capita provision levels are considered.

The 2024 draft Master Plan proposes a review of options and locations for enhanced library services within the Bronte area and vicinity, including the potential to add a library branch at QEPCCC to be triggered when the population reaches 300,000.

During the OPL Board consultation for the 2024 Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan, it was discussed that OPL undertake a review of the current Woodside branch to identify if it is in the appropriate location as related to the growth within its catchment areas and surrounding neighbourhoods.

It is OPL's recommendation that any consideration of a hybrid library option in Bronte Market Square be deferred pending a review of Bronte service gaps and Woodside's catchment area that will occur in 2025. Any potential impacts from this review would be considered as part of the 2026 budget process.