

Parks and Environment Committee

Meeting No.	20	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Wednesday, November 19, 2008	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	pec@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall	Chair	Councillor Paula Fletcher

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Ron Moeser, the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parks and Environment Committee held on October 17, 2008, were confirmed.

PE20.1	Presentation	Received		Wards: All
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Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Corporations and Divisions (ABCCDs) Presentations - Environmental Initiatives

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee:

1. requested Deputy City Manager, Cluster B to report to the Parks and Environment Committee on current measures used to track idling in all City and Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Corporations and Divisions (ABCCDs) fleet vehicles and to identify potential full savings and reductions associated with reduced idling in City fleet vehicles.
2. requested the Director, Toronto Environment Office and Live Green Toronto to report back to the Parks and Environment Committee on a possible anti-idling poster contest and campaign, in co-operation with Toronto elementary schools and Toronto Public Health Division.
3. requested the General Manager, Transportation Services Division to provide an update on transportation initiatives to the Parks and Environment Committee in one year; and
4. received the presentations from Gary Welsh, General Manager, Transportation Services Division and Ann Borooah, Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building Division, for information and with thanks.

Summary

Presentations from:

- a. Gary Welsh, General Manager, Transportation Services
- b. Ann Borooah, Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building

Background Information

Presentation from Gary Welsh, General Manager, Transportation Services

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17567.pdf>)

Green Initiatives, Transportation Services

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17579.pdf>)

Presentation from Ann Borooah, Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17568.pdf>)

Solar Hot Water Heaters: Making Your Home Solar Ready, Toronto Building

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17578.pdf>)

Motions

Motion to Receive Item moved by Councillor Gord Perks (Carried)

Motion to Amend Item (Additional Recommendations 1 and 2) moved by Councillor Paula Fletcher (Carried)

Motion to Amend Item (Additional Recommendation 3) moved by Councillor Raymond Cho (Carried)

(Deferred from October 17, 2008 - 2008.PE19.5)

PE20.2	Information	Deferred		Wards: All
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Review of Surplus Sites

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee again deferred consideration of this matter to the February, 2009 Parks and Environment Committee meeting and requested that Facilities and Real Estate Division staff be invited to attend this meeting.

Origin

(October 1, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Summary

Staff considered the Committee request to distribute lists of surplus sites to Councillors and to review the sites from an environmental and parks point of view and to report to the Parks and Environment Committee.

The existing process for the circulation of surplus city and school board lands includes agencies, boards, commissions and City divisions (the City ABCDs), as well as the affected Ward Councillor. Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division (PFR) reviews all such circulations in light of the Division's mandate and service requirements.

This report to the Parks and Environment Committee is to provide this information as requested.

Background Information

Staff Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-16325.pdf>)

Motions

Motion to Defer Item moved by Councillor Ron Moeser (Carried)

(Deferred from October 17, 2008 - 2008.PE19.6)

PE20.3	Information	Amended		Wards: All
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3620 Kingston Road (Cornell/Campbell House - Centre for the Program of Excellence - Horticulture)

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report to the Committee on a proposed strategic plan and purpose for the Cornell/Campbell House - Centre for the Program of Excellence - Horticulture (3620 Kingston Road), including its relationship to surrounding City-owned assets.

Origin

(September 17, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Summary

This report provides an overview of some of the programming directions planned for the new Centre for Excellence – Horticulture, to be set up in the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division's newly acquired property at 3620 Kingston Road (Cornell/Campbell House). This facility will be developed into what is hoped to a citywide 'hub' for horticultural education activities. The new facility will allow for horticultural education programs for children, youth and seniors from the surrounding community and will help to engage volunteers and form partnerships with the communities and businesses across Toronto.

Background Information

Staff Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17231.pdf>)

Motions

Motion to Amend Item moved by Councillor Paula Fletcher (Carried)

PE20.4	Information	Received		Ward: 37
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Site Selected for the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Project for a Multiplex Sport Pad in the Dorset Park Neighbourhood

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee received the report (October 29, 2008) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, for information.

Origin

(October 29, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Summary

The purpose of this report is to notify the Parks and Environment Committee within two months after the community consultation on the suitable location selected for the proposed Multiplex Sport Pad in the Dorset Park neighbourhood; one of the thirteen identified priority neighbourhoods.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff were requested to host consultations and work with the local youth, community representatives in the Dorset Park neighbourhood and the local councillor to determine a location for the Multiplex Sport Pad.

The abandoned parking lot for the McGregor Park Library met the criteria developed by the working group and is the site selected for this Parks, Forestry and Recreation capital project.

Background Information

Staff Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17293.pdf>

Communications

(November 18, 2008) letter from Councillor Michael, Thompson, Ward 37 - Scarborough Centre (PE.New.LS20.4.1)
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/comm/communicationfile-9619.pdf>

Motions

Motion to Receive Item moved by Councillor Michael Walker (Carried)

PE20.5	ACTION	Amended		Wards: All
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Winter Snow Removal on the Martin Goodman Trail

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee:

1. requested the General Manager, Transportation Services and General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report to the November 25, 2008 Special Executive Committee meeting on any future capital expenditures that may be necessary for clearing snow from the Martin Goodman Trail.
2. requested the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee, in consultation with the Toronto Cyclists' Union, to work with City staff in developing an evaluation of the pilot project.
3. requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report to the Parks and Environment Committee on the installation of bike rings for the Martin Goodman Trail and other waterfront parks, including criteria for their installation; and
4. adopted the staff recommendations in the report (October 30, 2008) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, as amended.

Origin

(October 30, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Summary

At its meeting of May 13, 2008, the Parks and Environment Committee requested the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to report on the feasibility of removing snow from the Martin Goodman Trail during the winter season. This request originated from a communication by the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee, which was referred to the Parks and Environment Committee. The Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee's communication requested that this matter be reviewed by the Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Transportation Services Divisions.

The issue of snow removal along the Martin Goodman Trail has been examined by Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff on more than one occasion. In 2004, at the request of several Councillors in the Toronto East York Community Council District, staff reviewed this matter, including undertaking an analysis of the additional costs required. At that time, it was determined that the additional operating cost of clearing snow along the trail in the winter months, were unaffordable, so the matter was not pursued.

In preparing this report, Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have consulted with Transportation Services staff who were also requested to report to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on snow clearing and improvements for bike lanes, laneways, laneway entrances and sidewalks. Both Divisions are reporting to the November Committee cycle, so the two standing Committees – Parks and Environment and Public Works and Infrastructure can consider this matter simultaneously.

Our two divisions are recommending that we work jointly on an effective and practical approach to provide winter maintenance along portions of the Martin Goodman Trail, where feasible, as a pilot project. We are also recommending that the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation report back on the capital and operating cost implications of winter maintenance on the Martin Goodman Trail.

Background Information

Staff Report General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-17294.pdf>

Speakers

Yvonne Bambrick, Toronto Cyclists' Union

Motions

Motion to Amend Item (Additional Recommendation 1) moved by Councillor Gord Perks (Carried)

Motion to Amend Item (Additional Recommendations 2 and 3) moved by Councillor Paula Fletcher (Carried)

Motion to Adopt Item as Amended moved by Councillor Raymond Cho (Carried)

Councillors Gord Perks and Raymond Cho assumed the Chair for part of the meeting.

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2008-11-19	Morning	9:40 AM	12:35 PM	Public

Attendance

Date and Time	Quorum	Members
2008-11-19 9:40 AM - 12:35 PM (Public Session)	Present	<i>Present:</i> Cho, Fletcher, Moeser, Perks, Walker <i>Not Present:</i> McConnell

Chair