
Parks and Environment Committee

Meeting No.	18	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Friday, July 4, 2008	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	pec@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 2, City Hall		

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PE18.2	Amended			Ward: All
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Undertaking Shade Audits at Parks, Forestry and Recreation Playgrounds and Waterplay Facilities

City Council Decision

City Council on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008, adopted the following motions:

1. The approach to conducting shade audits, developing standards for shade provision and the criteria for selecting pilot project sites, as outlined in the report (June 19, 2008) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, be adopted.
2. Staff proceed with the selection of pilot project sites and report back on any additional resources that may be required to complete the shade audits.
3. Staff continue to work with the Shade Policy Committee led by Toronto Public Health and build on knowledge gained from the pilot projects to confirm standards for shade provision, to be used on future shade projects.
4. Toronto Public Health and the Shade Policy Committee develop a Shade Policy Guide for the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division that includes guidelines and standards for existing playgrounds and waterplay facilities.
5. The guide be made available to City staff who supervise waterplay facilities so that the staff can review the guidelines and make recommendations to senior staff on possible shade enhancements.
6. The Shade Policy Committee be requested to submit an information bulletin to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, on the importance of protecting children from UVR exposure, to be included in the Spring/Summer 2009 "The Fun Guide".

7. The Shade Policy Committee develop an information bulletin that can be posted on the City of Toronto's Website and can be used by Councillors who wish to include such information in their constituency newsletter.

(June 19, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Committee Recommendations

The Parks and Environment Committee recommends to City Council that:

1. the approach to conducting shade audits, developing standards for shade provision and the criteria for selecting pilot project sites, as outlined in the report (June 19, 2008) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation be adopted.
2. staff proceed with the selection of pilot project sites and report back on any additional resources that may be required to complete the shade audits; and
3. staff continue to work with the Shade Policy Committee led by Toronto Public Health and build on knowledge gained from the pilot projects to confirm standards for shade provision, to be used on future shade projects.

Committee Decision Advice and Other Information

Alex Shevchuk, Acting Supervisor, Area Landscape and Planning Initiatives, Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division, gave a Powerpoint presentation.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of this report. Future financial implications may result from consultant or staff resources needed to conduct shade audits and future Capital work required to implement improvements to facilities.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed process for conducting pilot project shade audits at a number of Parks, Forestry and Recreation playgrounds and waterplay facilities (wading pools and splash pads). The report will identify the process to be carried out, how standards for shade provision will be applied and criteria to be used in selecting project sites across the City.

Shade audits will assess existing shade provision and patterns of use at these facilities and make recommendations for the provision of adequate shade and Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) protection. Pilot projects will allow staff to develop a consistent set of standards and guidelines to apply to future projects, confirm a shade audit process and anticipate capital and operating costs required to plan, implement and maintain additional plantings and shade structures.

Playgrounds, splash pads, and wading pools are areas that can be of high risk for UVR exposure to vulnerable segments of the population such as children. The provision of shade, either natural (trees) or constructed (structures), should be an essential element in the planning

of new and retrofitted playground and waterplay facilities. These facilities are primarily used during summer when UVR levels are at their highest, users typically wear minimal clothing and there may be high levels of indirect UVR reflected from surfaces.

A preliminary assessment of Parks, Forestry and Recreation playgrounds and waterplay facilities conducted in 2008 indicated that most of the facilities need significant improvements in the level of shade provided.

Background Information (Committee)

Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-14285.pdf>)

Staff Presentation

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-14559.pdf>)

PE18.3	Amended			Ward: 8
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Amendment to Municipal Code, Alternative Parkland Dedication

City Council Decision

City Council on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008, adopted the following motion:

1. The City Solicitor be authorized to introduce a Bill to amend Municipal Code, Chapter 415, Development of Land, Article III, Conveyance of Land for Park Purposes, Schedule A, Maps 1(a), A-1 and A-4, to include the area in the vicinity of Black Creek, Finch Avenue and Keele Street as shown on Attachment 1.

City Council Decision Advice and Other Information

City Council on July 15, 16 and 17, 2008, adopted a procedural motion to remove, from the Parks and Environment Committee, Item PE18.3, headed “Amendment to Municipal Code, Alternative Parkland Dedication”, which was deferred by the Committee on July 4, 2008, and bring the Item forward to City Council for consideration at this meeting.

(June 13, 2008) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Committee Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee:

1. deferred consideration of the report (June 13, 2008) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to its meeting on October 17, 2008; and
2. in the interim, requested the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to meet with El Ad Group to discuss the proposed changes to the Alternative Parkland Dedication By-law.

Financial Impact

The Alternative Parkland Dedication By-Law allows the City to require additional parkland dedication on applicable residential developments in identified areas of the city, including cash-in-lieu of parkland dedication payments. Financial impacts relate to cash-in-lieu parkland dedication payments through the alternative rate structure. The magnitude of this financial impact is being assessed and will be included in a report to the Parks and Environment Committee in the fall of 2008.

Summary

This report recommends amending Municipal Code Chapter 415, Development of Land, Article III, Conveyance of Land for Park Purposes, Schedule "A", Maps 1(a), A-1 & A-4, to include an area in the vicinity of Black Creek, Finch Avenue and Keele Street that was mistakenly omitted from the 2007 by-law.

Background Information (Committee)

Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-14286.pdf>

Communications (Committee)

(July 4, 2008) memo from Councillor Anthony Perruzza, Ward 8 York-West (PE.New.PE18.3.1)

Speakers (Committee)

Kim Kovar, Aird & Berlis

Declared Interests (City Council)

The following member(s) declared an interest:

Councillor Howard Moscoe - in that his principal residence is in the subject neighbourhood.

Submitted Friday, July 4, 2008

Councillor Paula Fletcher, Chair, Parks and Environment Committee