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**City Council**

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**Motion without Notice**

MM38.20	ACTION			
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**Support for the Creation of a 40,000-acre Rouge Valley National Park -  
by Councillor De Baeremaeker, seconded by Councillor Moeser**

- Notice of this Motion has not been given.*
- A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
- This Motion is subject to referral to the Parks and Environment Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

**Recommendations**

Councillor De Baeremaeker, seconded by Councillor Moeser, recommends that:

1. City Council affirm that it believes that the Rouge Valley watershed is of national significance and that it supports the creation of a 40,000 acre Rouge Valley National Park in order to protect the extraordinary wealth contained the Toronto, York and Durham areas of the Park.
2. The City of Toronto request and encourage the government of Canada and Province of Ontario to establish a Rouge Valley National Park and commit to having a visible and welcomed presence in the largest urban centre in Canada.

**Summary**

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority unanimously voted to recognize that the Rouge Park is of national significance and also voted unanimously to request and encourage the provincial and federal governments to support the creation of a 40,000 acre National Park Model to protect and preserve the Rouge Watershed as outlined in the Rouge Valley National Park Now Committee proposal.

The Rouge Park was first announced in 1990 and comprised of approximately 4,500 acres. The Park has been expanded into York and Durham Regions and now consists of approximately 12,000 acres of publicly owned lands stretching from the shore of Lake Ontario to the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The Rouge Park has a wealth of locally, provincially and nationally rare species and is currently facing challenges posed by urban sprawl, illegal hunting and poaching, and illegal

dumping of garbage and construction waste.

To protect the integrity of the Rouge Valley ecosystem the federal government is being asked to contribute an additional 14, 0000 of publicly owned land, the provincial government is being asked to contribute an additional 7,500 acres of publicly owned land and both governments are being asked to support the creation of a National Park.

(Submitted to City Council on August 5, 2009 as MM38.20)

### **Background Information**

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Resolution

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-22685.pdf>

Rouge Park Alliance Resolution

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-22686.pdf>

Rouge Park National Park Proposal

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-22687.pdf>