



Agenda

Regular

Parks and Environment Committee

Meeting No.	23	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Monday, April 20, 2009	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	pec@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall	Chair	Councillor Paula Fletcher

Parks and Environment Committee		
Councillor Paula Fletcher (Chair) Councillor Raymond Cho (Vice Chair Environment)	Councillor Ron Moeser Councillor Frances Nunziata	Councillor Karen Stintz (Vice Chair Parks) Councillor Michael Walker

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Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**Speakers/Presentations: A complete list will be distributed at the meeting****Confirmation of Minutes - February 5, 2009****Communications/Reports****(Deferred from January 16, 2009 - 2009.PE21.3)**

PE23.1	Presentation			Ward: All
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Agencies, Boards, Commissions, Corporations and Divisions (ABCCDs) Presentations - Environmental Initiatives**Summary**

Presentations from:

- a. Toronto Public Health by Dr. David McKeown, Medical Officer of Health; and
- b. Corporate Communications by Kevin Sack, Director, Strategic Communications, City Manager's Office.

(no written material)

(Deferred from November 19, 2008 - 2008.PE20.2)**(Deferred from October 17, 2008 - 2008.PE19.5)**

PE23.2	ACTION			Ward: All
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Review of Surplus Sites**Origin**

(October 1, 2008) Report from the Deputy City Manager, Sue Corke and the 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.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact to this report.

Background Information

Staff Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-18511.pdf>)

PE23.3	ACTION			Ward: 36
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Donation from Fiskars Brands Canada Inc. to Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Origin

(April 3, 2009) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Director, Toronto Office of Partnerships

Recommendations

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Director of the Toronto Office of Partnerships recommend that:

1. City Council accept an in-kind donation from Fiskars Brands Canada Inc., valued at \$100,000.00 US Dollars, for the development of a new community garden on an existing parks property located on the north side of Kingston Road, east of No. 3620, in the Scarborough Village community, proposed to be installed on May 27, 2009; and
2. the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation be authorized to enter into an agreement with Fiskars Brands Canada Inc. for the development of the community garden on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

This report seeks approval from City Council to accept an in-kind donation from Fiskars Brands Canada Inc. to construct a community garden in Toronto in accordance with the Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits. Since the estimated value of this offer exceeds the \$50,000.00 threshold for donation acceptance established in the policy, the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division requires City Council consent before proceeding with the initiative.

The in-kind donation stems from the company's "Project Orange Thumb" program, which has seen the development of over 100 community gardens in North America since its inception in 2003. Fiskars has selected the priority neighbourhood of Scarborough Village (Ward 36 – Scarborough Southwest) for its inaugural Toronto project. Construction of the garden, which will measure 50' x 50' at a minimum, is proposed to take place on May 27, 2009.

Financial Impact

The recommendation contained in this report will have no net impact on the 2009 or future Parks, Forestry and Recreation operating budgets.

Maintenance costs for this project will be nominal, as the new garden will be cared for by local community groups. No additional programming costs are anticipated.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Background Information

Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-19864.pdf>)

PE23.4	ACTION			Ward: 10
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Private Donation to Fund an Accessible Water-themed Playground and Sensory Garden at Earl Bales Park

Origin

(March 27, 2009) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Recommendations

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that:

1. approval be granted to accept a donation of approximately \$1,000,000.00 from Ms. Goldie Feldman for the purpose of constructing an accessible water-themed playground and sensory garden in Earl Bales Park in 2010;
2. a new accessible water-themed playground and sensory garden project be created in the 2009 and 2010 Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Budget with revenues and expenses of approximately \$1,000,000.00 funded from a donation received from Ms. Goldie Feldman and that approval be given to receive the funds into this project;
3. the 2009 Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital Budget be amended to include \$1,000,000.00 for improvements to Earl Bales Park to be cash flowed \$150,000.00 and \$850,000.00 in 2009 and 2010, respectively; and
4. authority be granted to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to negotiate and enter into an Agreement with the donor to accept the donation, and to install a plaque on-site for the life of the water-themed playground and sensory garden in recognition of the donation, all in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Council to accept a donation of approximately \$1,000,000.00 cash from Ms. Goldie Feldman to facilitate building an accessible water-themed playground and sensory garden in Earl Bales Park. Ms. Feldman has offered this very generous donation in honour of her late parents, Morris and Sarah Feldman, in the hope that it would allow the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to provide a new play facility for children and adults of all physical and cognitive skill and ability.

The project design would be finalized in cooperation between the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division and the donor. The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division would provide oversight of the project through completion.

Once constructed, the City of Toronto would be responsible for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the facility.

This entire capital project would be fully funded by the donation from Ms. Feldman.

Financial Impact

There would be a net financial impact that would result from the acceptance of this donation and the construction of this new park amenity. The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division would have to assume annual operating and maintenance costs of approximately \$70,000.00. This funding request will be submitted for consideration as an operating impact of Capital in the FY2010 Operating Budget submission.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation 2009 and 2010 Operating and Capital Budgets will be amended to reflect the donation from Ms. Feldman. This project will be included in future years' Operating Budget submissions for Parks, Forestry and Recreation as they are presented for consideration.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

Background Information

Staff Report

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-20018.pdf>)