
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

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

Committee Recommendations

The Parks and Environment Committee recommends 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.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee:

1. requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to give priority to community gardening in the development of the Cornell Campbell House; and
2. thanked Fiskars Brands Canada Inc. for their generous donation.

Chris Brillinger, Acting Executive Director of Social Development, Finance and Administration and Phyllis Berck, Director, Toronto Office of Partnerships addressed the Committee and submitted a written presentation.

Origin

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

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.

Background Information

Staff Report

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

Scarborough Village Garden Presentation

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-20510.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**Committee Recommendations**

The Parks and Environment Committee recommends to City Council 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.

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Parks and Environment Committee:

- a. requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to:
 - (i) report to the October 15, 2009 meeting of the Committee regarding the City's strategy for making all existing City playgrounds fully accessible to all children, youth and adults, disabled or not, such report to contain a prioritized list of City playgrounds for implementation of this City strategy;
 - (ii) develop a beautiful standard commemorative City marker for donations to Parks; and
- b. thanked the Feldman Family for their generous donation.

Origin

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

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.

Background Information

Staff Report

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

Speakers

Councillor Mike Feldman, Ward 10 York Centre

Submitted Monday, April 20, 2009

Councillor Paula Fletcher, Chair, Parks and Environment Committee