

Fred Young Park - Status Update and Park Naming

Date:	April 7, 2010
To:	North York Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 8 –York West
Reference Number:	P:/2010/Cluster A/PFR/NY33-042710-AFS#11364

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report responds to the request made at the May 14th, 2009, North York Community Council meeting (NY26.39), to provide a status report on the development of the proposed “Fred Young Park” located at 440 Cook Road. The report also responds to the naming of the new park to Fred Young Park.

Parks, Forestry, and Recreation staff is recommending that the park situated at 440 Cook Road, be officially named “Fred Young Park” in honour of his contributions to the City of Toronto.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy have been met.

RECOMMENDATION

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

1. North York Community Council name the park located at 440 Cook Road “Fred Young Park” in honour of Mr. Young’s significant contributions to the City of Toronto.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

In 1990, Bramalea Limited received approval from the former City of North York for the development of 1,573 residential units, including a new park, on a property purchased from York University. At this time, the Fred Young family also bequeathed \$50,000 towards the construction of an entrance feature to the park with a plaque in honour of Mr. Young. However, due to the bankruptcy of Bramalea Limited, monies were not secured for acquiring the lands and the development of the proposed park did not occur.

Since then, Tribute Homes, purchased the property and is responsible for the park development. A Letter of Credit in the amount of \$233,533.95 has been secured for the Park development by the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division. The park is to be completed in 2010. Funding in the amount of \$57,900 has been included in the 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation for maintenance of this new park.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division will design and install an entrance feature utilising the entire amount donated by the Young family. This entrance project will be included in the Parks, Forestry and Recreation 2011 Capital Budget. Funds in the amount of \$63,218.63, comprised of the original donation from the Fred Young family, plus accrued interest, are available for this work.

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

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of May 14th, 2009, North York Community Council (Item NY26.39), requested the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to provide a status report on the development of the proposed “Fred Young Park” including:

- a. total amount of donation with interest to date;
- b. how the donation will be used;
- c. the timing of the park development;
- d. details of what is to be included in the park.

Decision documents from May 14th meeting (NY26.39):

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/ny/decisions/2009-05-14-ny26-dd.htm>

COMMENTS

Park Development

Construction of “Fred Young Park” Block 347 by Tribute Homes Phase II will commence in the summer of 2010 and is targeted to be finished by the fall of 2010. The development of the enhanced park entrance feature by City of Toronto forces will follow after the park is developed.

The donation made by the Fred Young family will be used to develop an entrance feature at the south east corner of the park site and will be submitted for consideration in 2011 capital budget. This feature will honour Mr. Fred Young and his many contributions, as well as reflect his love of gardening.

The park will consist of a large soccer pitch with four player benches and permanent goal posts. The park area will be surrounded by a 1.2 metre high chain link fence along the south and west property lines. The Fred Young entrance way will add architectural detail and design to the park.

Park Naming

Fred Matthews Young was a Canadian politician, ordained minister, and long-time organizer for the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF). He became interested in politics after working as a minister in the United Church of Canada. While working as a staff representative for the United Steel Workers of America, Mr. Young also worked as an organizer for the CCF in 1940s and 1950s, travelling throughout Atlantic Canada and Ontario.

Fred Young served as a North York Councillor (Ward 5) from 1956 to 1962, prior to winning the election to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario in the 1963 provincial election for the North York riding of Yorkview. Mr. Young sat as an Ontario New Democratic Party Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) from 1963 until 1981. As a legislator, Mr. Young fought for highway safety, mandatory use of seat belts and airbags. He passed away in December 1993.

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SIGNATURE

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