

Parks and Environment Committee

PE28.3		Amended		Ward: All
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Development of a City-wide Parks Plan

City Council Decision

City Council on February 22 and 23, 2010, adopted the following:

1. City Council approve the development of a City-wide, multi-year Parks Plan guided by the following principles:

1. Parks and Trails as City Infrastructure
2. Equitable Access for All Residents
3. Nature in the City
4. Place Making
5. Supporting a Diversity of Uses
6. Community Engagement and Partnerships
7. Environmental Goals and Practices.

2. City Council refer the following motions to the Parks and Environment Committee for consideration at its March 10, 2010 meeting:

Moved by Councillor Moscoe:

That the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation be requested to:

1. develop a qualitative measure of existing parks and green spaces;
2. evaluate the physical condition of parks space, including equipment and amenities and establish minimum standards for each classification with a view to upgrading those below standards and ensuring that all citizens have access to quality park space irrespective of their location within the City of Toronto; and
3. evaluate the degree to which local park design and amenities relate to the diverse and evolving character of its neighbourhood and changing demographics, and develop policies and procedures that will allow the park space to reflect changing demographics and neighbourhood ethnicity so that local parks can best serve local needs.

Moved by Councillor Vaughan:

That the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation be requested to report to the Parks and Environment Committee, during this process, on the possibility of using the local levy provisions of the City of Toronto Act to create Parks Improvement Associations (PIAs), and to bring forward other ideas that might facilitate community partnerships aimed at assisting neighbourhoods as they participate in the design, maintenance and programming of local parks.

(Please refer to Attachment A: Parks Plan: Guiding Principles for details of specific principles and their related objectives, in the report (January 20, 2010) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation.)

Committee Recommendations

The Parks and Environment Committee recommends that City Council approve the development of a City-wide, multi-year Parks Plan guided by the following principles:

1. Parks and Trails as City Infrastructure
2. Equitable Access for All Residents
3. Nature in the City
4. Place Making
5. Supporting a Diversity of Uses
6. Community Engagement and Partnerships
7. Environmental Goals and Practices

(Please refer to Attachment A: Parks Plan: Guiding Principles for details of specific principles and their related objectives, in the report (January 20, 2010) from the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation.)

Origin

(January 20, 2010) Report from General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Summary

This report seeks City Council approval for the development of a City-wide, multi-year Parks Plan, based on a set of Guiding Principles identified in this report. The Plan will guide decision-making in the acquisition, development, management and operation of the system of public parkland across the City.

This report outlines the principles, the planning approach, a proposed work plan and timeline, including community and stakeholder engagement to support the development of the Parks Plan. The report also outlines a draft Parks Classification system that will be developed further

as part of the Parks Plan.

Background Information (Committee)

Staff Report

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2010/pe/bgrd/backgroundfile-26623.pdf>