

Pam McConnell, Chair  
Toronto East York Community Council  
100 Queen St. W., Suite A7  
Toronto, ON  
M5H 2N2

August 12, 2010

Dear Councillor McConnell:

**Re: Queen's Park North – Usage Policy**

I am requesting that the following item be added to the August 17<sup>th</sup> TEYCC agenda for consideration.

**Issue:**

Queen's Park North has become a tremendously popular site for organizations looking to host outdoor special events. This year alone, QPN will host 30 events from May through October. While these events create a sense of vibrancy in the neighbourhood, they have led to considerable strain on the physical environment of the park, causing stress to the tree canopy, compaction of soil, and significant damage to the turf, pathways and other park amenities. Much of this damage is a result of event organizers not adhering to permit conditions, such as ensuring that vehicles are kept out of the park. Another problematic issue for area residents is sound amplification from certain events. My office regularly hears from Parks staff and local residents regarding these issues, and they believe further programming in the park will lead to greater deterioration of park assets and cause irreversible damage to the tree canopy. As a result, a usage policy, specific to QPN, should be developed by the General Manager of Parks, Forestry & Recreation.

**Recommendation:**

Direct the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to consult with the area Parks Manager, the Director of Urban Forestry, local residents and special event organizers on a usage policy for Queen's Park North and report back to TEYCC with recommendations.

I remain,

Kyle Rae  
City Councillor

C: Ros Dyers