

August 10, 2010

To: Chair and Members
Government Management Committee

Re: Report 33-20 – Transfer of Properties to Build Toronto and Declaration of Surplus –
Third Quarter 2010

Recommendation

1. That the recommendation to declare surplus the land located at Markham Road and Dunelm Street be deferred pending a report from the Director of Planning, Scarborough District, regarding the future land-use designation for this property in the context of the review of the city-owned lands between Markham Road and Scarborough Golf Club Road;
2. And further that the Director of Facilities and Real Estate confirm an interest by the Y.M.C.A. in acquiring this property for a future facility.

Background

The purpose of the report before you today is to declare identified properties as surplus to City requirements and transfer to Build Toronto for disposal.

The property in which I have an interest is located at Markham Road and Dunelm Street in the Scarborough District. Part 1 and Part 2 are approximately 2.9 acres in size. These lands were originally purchased by Metropolitan Toronto for the Scarborough Expressway. These lands are currently part of a planning review of city-owned lands between Markham Road and Scarborough Golf Club Road. The property is located in one of the City's "13 At Risk Communities".

I have had on-going discussions with Facilities and Real Estate about the future disposition of this property. A previous recommendation that this property be declared surplus was withdrawn by Staff to allow an opportunity to conduct a more exhaustive search for a public use. That report and recommendation is now back before Committee.

Various reviews have identified the need for public meeting space and recreational activities for youth in the Scarborough Village neighbourhood.

There remain two outstanding issues that require further consideration and review prior to declaring the property surplus and transferring to Build Toronto.

First, Margaret Best, M.P.P., has very recently informed the Scarborough Village Advisory Committee, that the YMCA is interested in building a facility at this site. I am now in the process of seeking an official confirmation of their intent.

Second, it is important in the context of the current planning review to determine what uses are most appropriate for this parcel of land. The Director of Planning for the Scarborough District is committed to reviewing the potential uses of this property in response to the new factors and in relation to the overall planning exercise.

Therefore, given the outstanding issues, the present planning review, and unique and evolving needs of the Scarborough Village Community, I believe it is premature to declare this property surplus in the absence of answers to these important questions.

Councillor Brian Ashton
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