



OFFICE OF
**BRAD
BRADFORD**
Toronto City Councillor
Beaches—East York | Ward 19



Tuesday January 11, 2022

Chair and Members, Infrastructure and Environment Committee
2nd floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: East End Support for Public Golf on Item IE27.6

To the Chair and Members of Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

As the City Councillors for the East End of Toronto, we are jointly asking for your support to maintain the vital public infrastructure provided by the current 18-hole Dentonia Park Golf Course, while finding new opportunities to enhance and encourage golf use for both the local community and equity-seeking groups.

Dentonia Park Golf Course is a unique and highly appreciated course for residents across the East End and Toronto, providing an affordable entry into the sport of golf. There are few courses in the country as accessible and affordable as Dentonia Park, which is situated on a subway line, in one of the most diverse communities in Toronto, and serving two of the City's Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs). Since 2018, this course has seen a continued annual increase in usage. Enhancing – not reducing – access to this special public course is vital for recognizing and building upon the benefits this City asset brings to many communities.

As City Councillors who share geographical borders and an interest in increasing equity in sport and recreation, we are jointly asking for your support to ensure the existing structure of this course is maintained while opportunities for increased programming and access be increased.

Recommendations:

That City Council amend Item IE27.6 by deleting existing recommendation 4, replacing it with the new recommendations below:

4. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with Chief Procurement Officer and any relevant divisions, to maintaining the existing 18-hole golf course structure at Dentonia Park Golf Course, while continuing to explore opportunities for further year-round recreation, multi-use arrangements, increased accessibility and affordability for golf use, and access to Taylor Massey Creek trail ravine.



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Ward 14, Toronto-Danforth

5. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with relevant divisions and local community organizations, to develop engagement and programming opportunities to increase access to golf programs for underrepresented groups in the sport, including but not limited to low-income, newcomers, women, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ residents.
6. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, in consultation with relevant agencies and divisions, to explore and develop creative opportunities to improve access to Taylor Massey trail ravine, in consultation with the local Ward Councillor and community.
7. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to report to Committee on the Terms of Reference for a long term Golf Strategy for the City of Toronto Golf Operations; and in consultation with local Councillors and the City Clerk, on the establishment of a City Golf Steering Committee.
8. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to implement an online payment system for the 2022 or earliest possible operating season following, and include online payment needs as part of future operational RFPs.
9. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to identify feasible City golf course locations and install temporary natural skating rinks and trails.

Thank you for your support on this important matter. On behalf of our East End communities and all who appreciate the unique benefits of Dentonia Park Golf Course, we are urging City staff to enhance – rather than reduce – the opportunities for all to take part in the unique opportunities this City of Toronto golf course provides.

Respectfully,

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