

November 20, 2018

## Proposed Changes to Dogs-Off Leash Area & Tennis Courts Sir Winston Churchill Park

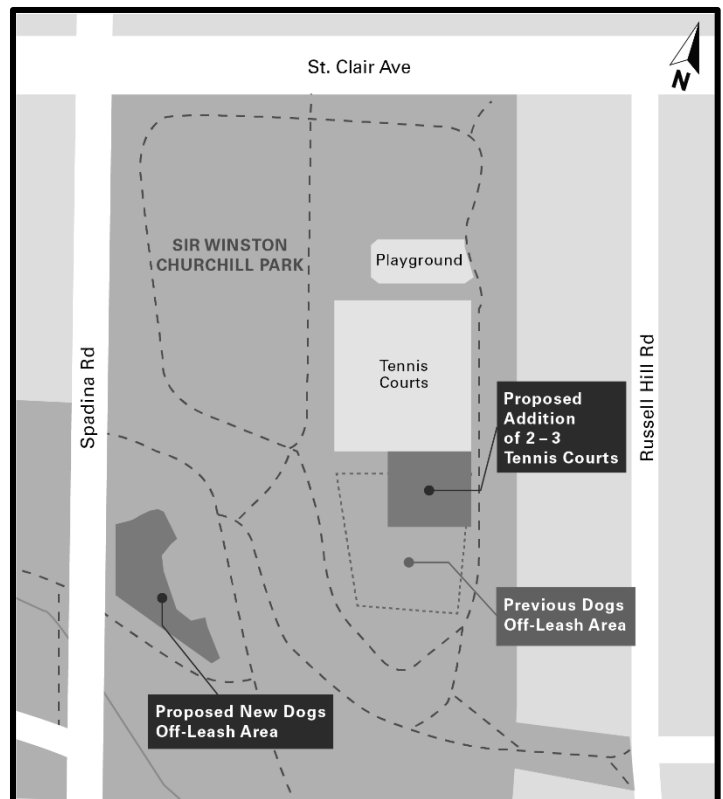
Changes are proposed to the Dogs Off-Leash Area (DOLA) and tennis courts at Sir Winston Churchill Park. As part of the St. Clair Reservoir Rehabilitation Project, plans were in place to reinstate the DOLA in its original location and to re-install a subsurface structure that would ensure the integrity of the reservoir's waterproofing membrane. However, in consultation with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Toronto Water has determined that the monitoring activities required to ensure the integrity of this subsurface structure are not feasible. This work would involve full removal of the off-leash area and all surface materials at regular intervals throughout the service life of the reservoir.

In recognizing the importance of an off-leash area to the community, the City has reviewed potential sites within the park and in nearby areas, and the only suitable option for relocation is to another area of the park (please refer to map). The proposed relocation of the DOLA also creates an opportunity to add to the existing tennis courts in the park.

### Public Drop-In Event

At this public drop-in event, attendees will have an opportunity to:

- Learn about the status of the reservoir rehabilitation and park restoration
- View the draft concept plans and designs for the proposed off-leash area and tennis courts
- Ask questions and speak to City of Toronto staff
- Provide feedback on the proposed changes



**Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018**

**Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

**Location: Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, 230 St. Clair Avenue W.  
Flora McCrea Auditorium (Room 109)**



[www.toronto.ca/stclairreservoir](http://www.toronto.ca/stclairreservoir)

## Background

Beneath Sir Winston Churchill Park is one of the City's water reservoirs. Originally constructed in 1930, the St. Clair Reservoir provides storage of drinking water and fire protection for local residents. Rehabilitation work is currently taking place to improve the aging infrastructure and ensure continued, uninterrupted distribution of water for years to come.

During Phase 2 of construction (May 2017- Fall 2019), elements of Sir Winston Churchill Park will be reinstated. This will include replacement of soil and sod on top of the reservoir, reinstallation of park features such as walkways, benches, tennis courts, and playground, and construction of new stairs at the southeast and northwest corners of the reservoir, as well as from the Portal Building to the Valve House. Re-installation of the Dogs Off-leash Area is also scheduled to take place during Phase 2 of construction in 2019.

## Proposed Relocation of Dogs Off-Leash Area

In order to adhere to the requirements of Ontario's Safe Drinking Water Act, the City has determined that the Dogs Off-Leash Area (DOLA) cannot be replaced in the original location atop the reservoir, as regular inspection of the reservoir structure would require regular removal of the DOLA for inspection. As a result, the City is proposing a relocation of the DOLA approximately 125m to the south west (*please refer to map on reverse*). Prior to the rehabilitation project, this was a grassed area and is located outside of any Environmentally Sensitive Areas in the park. No trees would be removed to relocate the DOLA.

## Proposed Addition of Tennis Courts

Phase 2 of construction will also see the reinstatement of the 10 floodlit tennis courts that were previously in the park. The proposed relocation of the DOLA creates an opportunity to add to the existing tennis courts. The Sir Winston Churchill Park Tennis Club has expressed an interest in adding two to three (2 to 3) tennis courts to the previous set of 10 courts. The additional 2 - 3 courts would not have lights and would be intended for daylight use only. Lighting will be reinstated for the original 10 courts.

The proposed addition of tennis courts is not a factor in the decision to relocate the DOLA. Due to the nature of the reservoir rehabilitation work, this would be the only opportunity to add new tennis courts for up to 75 years (until the next major reservoir rehabilitation project).

**For those unable to attend the public drop-in event, project materials (including the feedback form) will be posted to the project website on the day of the event.**

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**Visit the St. Clair Reservoir Rehabilitation project website for updates and information**

**[www.toronto.ca/stclairreservoir](http://www.toronto.ca/stclairreservoir)**