

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – JUNE 20, 2005

TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PINE YORK OPEN SPACE

Recommendation

Councillor Carella recommends that staff proceed to negotiate with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority the temporary closure of the Pine York Open Space (WOS4) for a period of not less than twelve months, commencing no later than September 1, 2005.

Economic Impact

Nil

Purpose

To respond to concerns of abutting residents re the misuse of this open space

Background - Analysis and Options

Recent reports of incidents of littering, general vandalism, and threats directed at the residents whose properties abut the Pine York Open Space (Parks Department designation WOS4) have come to the attention of the local councillor and Parks Department staff. Apparently these incidents have been perpetrated by high school-age students who use the open space as a pathway to and from the fast food outlets in the vicinity of Pine Valley Drive and Regional Road 7. As ongoing police and/or staff surveillance is not feasible, the closure of the open space may communicate the appropriate message---that open spaces are not meant to be zones where lawlessness is tolerated, and that the put an end to such lawlessness, the City is prepared to deny public access to certain open spaces for a time.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

While pedestrian-friendly links are an important component of strategies to reduce reliance on automobiles, lawless behaviour in and around open spaces is not to be tolerated. One way in which this message can be communicated is to deny access to such open spaces for a time.

Attachments

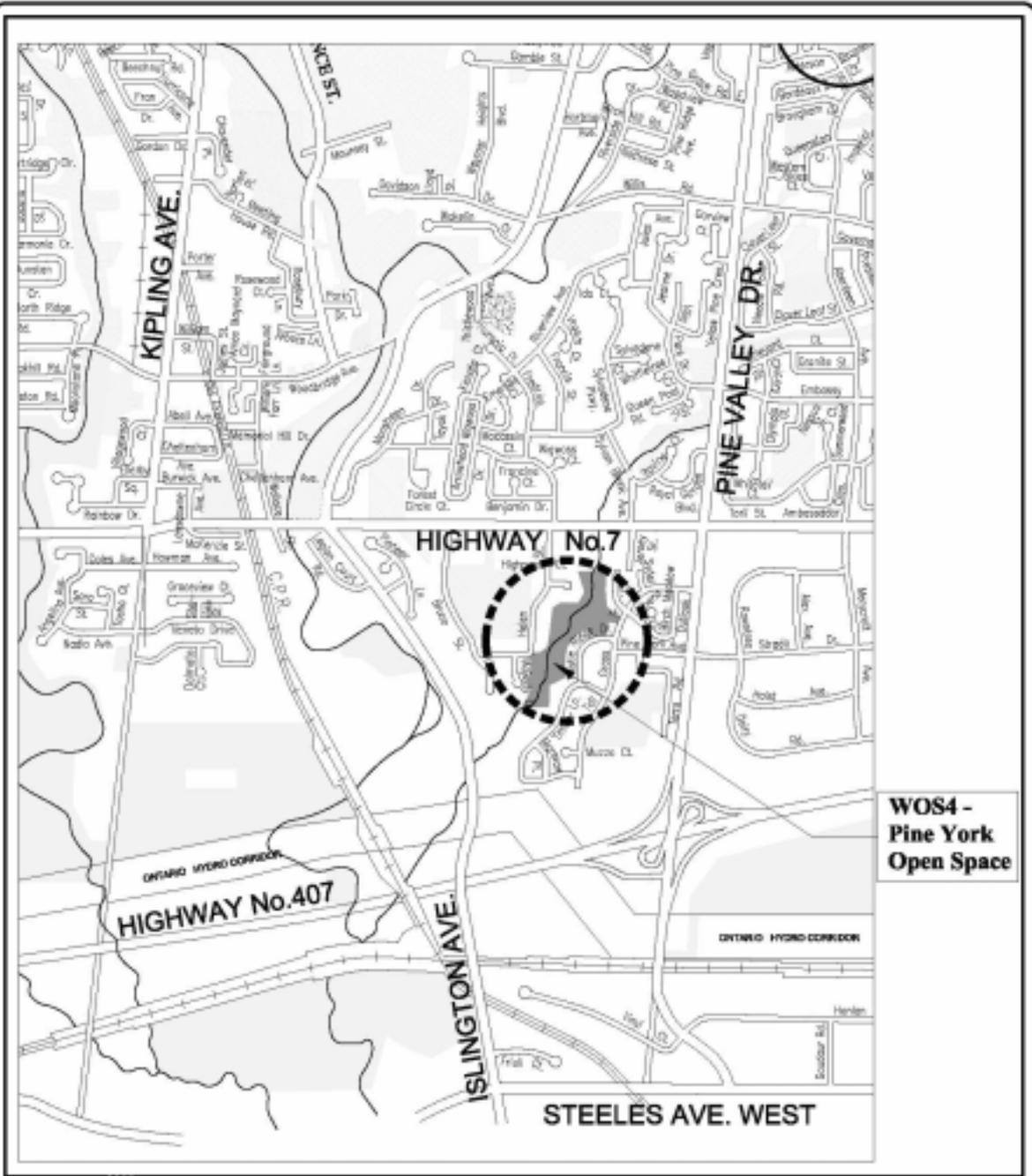
Map indicating the location of WOS4 (Pine York Open Space)

Report prepared by:

Councillor Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Carella
Councillor – Ward 2



City of Vaughan
The City Above Toronto

*Location Map,
 Pine York Open Space (WOS4)
 141 Helen Street,
 Woodbridge*



DRAWN: M.T. APPROVED: P.T.
 SCALE: N.A. DATE: 09/06/05

Parks Development Division

