

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - FEBRUARY 5, 2007

VELLORE VILLAGE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Recommendation

Councillor Bernie Di Vona in consultation with Mayor Linda Jackson recommends:

1. That the City of Vaughan review the petition from St. Agnes of Assisi School Parent Council dated December 6, 2006.
2. That the City of Vaughan Director of Parks Development in consultation with the City of Vaughan Engineering Department and the York Region District School Board review the request for a walkway and fencing in Fossil Hill Park for the children attending St. Agnes of Assisi School.
3. That the City of Vaughan review the budget vs. actual funding to date to determine the availability of funding, if any, for the additional work as requested.
4. Alternatively the capital budget request be forwarded to the Budget Committee and consultation be given for the 2007 Budget.
5. The City of Vaughan By-Law Department include Fossil Hill Park within the normal regular cycle of inspections.
6. That Staff prepare a report for the next available Committee of The Whole meeting to address the concerns of the residents as outlined in the petition.

Economic Impact

There will be associated costs with regard to the initial installation of the fence and walkway and future maintenance costs. This would impact the 2007 Budget.

Purpose

To review the concerns raised by the residents.

Background - Analysis and Options

The recommendation and request originated from the St. Agnes of Assisi School Parent Council dated December 6, 2006.

St. Agnes of Assisi School Parent Council met to discuss matters of local interest for the benefit and safety of their children and community. Their concerns have been outlined in the recommendation section of the item.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

The Vaughan Vision speaks to the need and importance to build a safer community and to consult with the residents, stakeholders, and generally those that have direct knowledge and direct interest in their community. This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

To review and implement those matters of a local interest to enhance the community safety of the residents.

Attachments

Letter and petition are attached.

Report prepared by:

Councillor Di Vona, ext. 8381

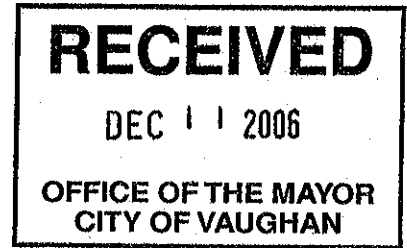
Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Bernie Di Vona
Councillor – Ward 3

Mayor Linda Jackson
City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario
L6A 1T1

December 6, 2006

Re: St. Agnes of Assisi School in Ward 3
120 La Rocca Avenue
Woodbridge, ON



Dear Mayor Jackson:

This is to advise you that the parents of the children attending at St. Agnes of Assisi School located in Ward 3, are greatly concerned by the lack of safety measures in place on the west side of the school that adjoins Fossil Hill Park.

The lack of a barrier, i.e. a fence, and the need for a barrier has recently been highlighted. On October 24th, 2006, a domestic dispute in a neighbouring house became of great concern to the school because one of the people involved attempted to seek shelter on school property.

Although the police intervened and removed the intruder, two police cruisers drove through the field to the back of the school and two others through our parking lot and around to the back of the portables towards the intruder. This occurred about five minutes after dismissal and luckily no student were hurt. Such situations pose a threat of danger to the children of St. Agnes of Assisi School.

Another safety issue we would like to bring to your attention is the need for a walkway in Fossil Hill Park. Parents are requesting that a walkway be constructed from the centre of the park's "pathway" to the school grounds. Due to seasonal weather conditions, the muddy field makes it extremely difficult and unsafe for parents to walk their children to school. A petition signed by a number of parents is attached for your information.

Clearly, our children's safety is of the utmost importance. I trust you will support the safety measures the Parent Council, and citizens of Ward 3, seek for the students at St. Agnes of Assisi School.

Your prompt attention to this matter is very greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

 (905)-653-5505.

Gina Covello
St. Agnes of Assisi School
Parent Council Member

NOTICE OF PETITION

A petition has been submitted with respect to the following matter and a copy is on file in the office of the City Clerk:

Agenda Item No.: 13

Item Name: VELLORE VILLAGE SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Particulars of the Petition:

Dated: December 6, 2006

No. of Signatures: 59

Submitted by: St. Agnes of Assisi School, Parent Council Member

For a copy of the petition contact:

**City of Vaughan, Clerk's Department, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, L6A 1T1
Tel: (905) 832-8504 Fax: (905) 832-8535**