

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - MAY 5, 2008

OFF LEASH DOG PARK

Recommendation

Councillor Peter Meffe recommends that:

1. Council directs the Director of Parks Development to move ahead with an Off Leash Dog Park by searching and recommending to Council sites within Vaughan for this initiative. This would include but not limited to options for purchase, lease or rental of space of privately owned as well as City, TRCA or Public Agency Lands. That this options be presented to Council within 60 days for evaluation and approval in order to commence thereafter immediate construction of an Off Leash Dog Park for the City of Vaughan, and
2. That a communication strategy be developed by staff of said initiative. That staff review and recommend guidelines and regulations of this facility for dog owners and their dogs. Incorporating and setting out requirements including that all dogs using the facility MUST be licensed by the City of Vaughan and have up-to-date vaccinations.

Economic Impact

Allocated in the 2008 Budget

Communications Plan

To be determined.

Purpose

In order to serve the needs of residents (dog owners) with the opportunity to better the health and wellness of themselves and their dogs by providing an area in Vaughan where dogs can run freely.

Background - Analysis and Options

The request for an Off Leash Dog Park has been ongoing for well over 2 years, and the two sites that have been previously reviewed have been opposed by local residents of both Woodbridge and Kleinburg. The funds for construction of an Off Leash Dog Park has been allocated in the budget of 2007 and been reconfirmed in the 2008 budget by this Council. Once this matter was commenced, it was clear that the Council of the City of Vaughan unanimously supported this worthy initiative.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the Vaughan Vision 2020 strategic initiatives to enhance and ensure community safety, health and wellness.

Regional Implications

None.

Conclusion

The City of Vaughan has allocated the appropriate funds in the budget to ensure that the City has an Off Leash Dog Park for the residents that are dog owners which will provide them with the opportunity to allow their dogs to run freely.

Attachments

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Meffe
Councillor, Ward 1