

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORKING SESSION JANUARY 13, 2004

WEST WOODBRIDGE EXPANSION AREA DISTRICT PARK - SOCCER PITCH

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services in consultation with the Manager of Parks Development seeks Council direction regarding the addition of a senior soccer pitch at the Woodbridge Expansion Area District Park (WEA District Park).

Purpose

Provide Council with information and seek direction for the possible addition of a senior soccer pitch at the Woodbridge Expansion Area District Park (WEA District Park).

Background - Analysis and Options

During the design phase of the WEA District Park, two (2) public meetings were held (May 2, 2002 and June 26, 2002) to obtain community input on the proposed park facilities and their spatial layout. At the first public meeting held May 2, 2002, a representative from the Woodbridge Soccer Association made an impassioned plea for construction of the maximum number of soccer pitches that the park will allow based on increasing number of soccer registrations. Several residents expressed displeasure about increasing the number of active sports facilities within the park due to fears of increased traffic along Sunset Ridge. Many other contentious issues arose and the residents suggested that a second community meeting be held to address their concerns (refer to Attachment #1).

The second public meeting was held on June 26, 2002 and reflected many of the comments and suggestions made by the community during the May 2, 2002 public meeting. The revised concept plan (refer to Attachment #2) proposed the same number of soccer pitches that were originally planned based on a known demand for soccer pitches in this area. The community members were not satisfied that 1 senior and 4 mini pitches was being proposed. They requested that the numbers be reduced by eliminating the two eastern mini soccer pitches with the feasibility of re-introducing these soccer pitches in the future based on community demand and need. The elimination of the 2 eastern mini soccer pitches received a consensus vote.

Based on the increased demand for senior soccer pitches in this area, Parks Development staff were asked to evaluate the logistics of implementing a senior pitch on the east side of the park adjacent to Islington Avenue. The evaluation indicated that spatially, there is sufficient area to implement a senior soccer pitch, as this area was to originally intended to accommodate 2 mini soccer pitches. Financially, the implementation of a senior pitch would require additional funding in the amount of \$50,000.00. The funding would be necessary to supply and install sod versus seed, and supply and install player's benches, soccer goal posts and spectator bleachers.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

Woodbridge Expansion Area District Park will provide facilities that promote a safe, livable and sustainable parkland environment for the community. The park design was developed through community consultation and was reviewed by the York Regional Police with regard to the principles of CPTED – Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.

This report recommends a change from the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have not been allocated.

Conclusion

An additional senior soccer pitch could be introduced into the Woodbridge Expansion Area District Park District if the Committee provides approval and additional funding in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Attachments

Attachment #1 - WEA District Park Concept Plan (May 2, 2002)

Attachment #2 - WEA District Park Revised Concept Plan (June 26, 2002)

Report Prepared By

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Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner of Community Services



ATTACHMENT # 1

