

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 20, 2004

TORII PARK TENNIS COURT LIGHTING

Recommendation

Local and Regional Councillor Linda Jackson recommends that the Building & Facilities Department reprogram the tennis court lights at Torii Park as requested by 80% of the local residents surveyed.

In order to accommodate the 20% of local residents who are requesting that the present practice remain unchanged, Local and Regional Councillor Linda Jackson recommends that the Building & Facilities Department investigate the possibility of redirecting the tennis court lighting at Torii Park.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the findings of a survey conducted by the Recreation and Culture Department of local residents in the vicinity of Torii Park to determine if the current practice of the tennis court lighting at Torii Park should be changed.

Background - Analysis and Options

At the request of past area residents, the tennis court lights at Torii Park are currently programmed to stay off.

The present lighting system is designed so that the lights can only be activated by pushing a button on a panel located near the tennis courts. If no user activates the lights, the tennis court lights remain off. A change to the timing of the lights would be to have the timer set to shut off at 11:00 p.m., which is the standard time for outdoor sports facilities across the City of Vaughan.

In July 2004, as a result of a number of requests from area residents, Local and Regional Councillor Jackson asked that the Recreation and Culture Department revisit the current tennis court lights practice at Torii Park.

During the week of August 2, 2004, a Notice dated July 29, 2004 was distributed to 426 houses in the vicinity of Torii Park via Canada Post. The Notice asked local residents to choose from two options, as follows:

- Tennis court lights stay off. Leave present practice unchanged.
- Turn tennis court lights on until 11:00 p.m.

Residents were asked to provide their name, address and a contact number. Approximately four telephone calls were received requesting that the lights be turned on. However, no name or contact information was provided and, therefore, these calls were not included in the survey results. A name and/or contact information had to have been provided in order for the vote to be counted. All mail-in responses on original yellow paper were counted.

Survey Results (received between August 5, 2004 and August 24, 2004):

Feedback Received	Tennis court lights stay off. Leave present practice unchanged.	Turn tennis court lights on until 11:00 p.m.
Telephone	1	22
Mail	3	4
TOTAL of 30	4	26
Percentage	20%	80%

Of the four residents asking that the tennis court lights stay off, two reside on Whitetail Court (Numbers 33 and 19), one resides at 130 Embassy Drive, and the fourth was a mail-in response and did not provide an address.

Of the 26 residents asking to turn the tennis court lights on until 11:00 p.m., one resides at 15 Whitetail Court. The others reside on Nessus Street, Torii Street, Ambassador Court, Summerwood Court, and Waterfall Court. Of the four mail-in responses, three residents reside on Torii Street and one did not provide an address.

It is important to note that:

- residents of Whitetail Court have their backyards facing the tennis courts at Torii Park
- a Notice was sent to the Pine Valley Ratepayers Association, c/o Cesare Teodoro), but no response was received back from them.

Conclusion

The Notice stated that if 60% or more of local residents were in agreement, the tennis court lighting at Torii Park could be reprogrammed. The survey results show that 80% of local residents are requesting that the City turn the tennis court lights on at Torii Park until 11:00 p.m.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Attachments

1. Public Notice, re: Torii Park, Tennis Court Lighting

Report prepared by:

Mirella Compagno, Council Administrative Assistant

Respectfully submitted,

Linda D. Jackson
Local and Regional Councillor

Public Notice

Torii Park, Tennis Court Lighting

The Recreation and Culture Department has recently received requests from several local residents for the tennis court lights at Torii Park to be turned on in the evenings. At the request of past local residents, the tennis court lights are currently programmed to stay off.

This Notice is to advise you that if 60% or more of local residents are in agreement, the tennis court lighting at Torii Park could be reprogrammed.

Following are two options to choose from. Please select one preferred option with a (✓) check mark indicating your choice:

Tennis court lights stay off. Leave present practise unchanged.

Turn tennis court lights on until 11:00 p.m.

The present lighting system is designed so that the lights can only be activated by pushing a button on a panel located near the tennis courts. If no user activates the lights, the tennis court lights would remain off. With respect to the timing of the lights, the timer would be set to shut off at 11:00 p.m., which is the standard time for outdoor sports facilities across the City.

Please return this Notice to the attention of the Recreation and Culture Department at 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1, or make your preference known by telephoning 905.832.8500 and speaking with my assistant, Viviana Precopi, at extension 8319, by no later than 20 August 2004.

Thanking you in advance for your feedback.

Diane LaPointe-Kay
Director of Recreation and Culture

/vp

c: Regional Councillor Linda Jackson
Councillor – Ward 3, Bernie Di Vona
Marlon Kallideen, Commissioner, Community Services
Angelo Cioffi, Buildings Manager

29 July 2004