

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – JULY 6, 2010

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR A SEASONAL TENNIS DOME

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Community Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Finance/City Treasurer, Directors of Parks Development, and Recreation and Culture, recommends:

- 1) That Council authorize staff, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to receive proposals from interested proponents for the supply and installation of a seasonal tennis dome over existing outdoor tennis courts that would facilitate operation of a winter tennis program.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions, Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Plan.

- 4.0 To create a vibrant community where citizens, business and visitors thrive.

Economic Impact

All capital and operating costs will be the responsibility of the successful proponent. There may also opportunity for the City of Vaughan to generate revenue through rental income from the use of the tennis courts and clubhouse. Ongoing capital repair / refurbishment costs would be the responsibility of any successful proponent through annual contributions to a reserve account.

Communications Plan

If approved, the RFP will be released through the Purchasing Services Department and advertised in accordance with the RFP process.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to receive proposals from interested proponents for the supply and installation of a seasonal tennis dome over existing outdoor tennis courts that would utilize the tennis courts by the private sector in the off-season and generate revenue and/or reduce the City's operating and capital costs.

Background - Analysis and Options

Throughout the past several years, the Community Services Department has received a number of unsolicited proposals from the private sector interested in funding the supply and installation of a tennis dome that could be placed over existing tennis courts owned by the City. The tennis dome would facilitate the operation of indoor tennis programs during the winter months. During the spring/summer seasons the dome would be removed, and the courts would be available to the public in accordance with established service levels.

The Vaughan Ventures Public / Private Partnership Policy, the City's framework for the evaluation of unsolicited proposals, states the City's goals for establishing partnerships is to provide municipal services or infrastructure in ways that encourage creativity and innovation, allow flexible use of capital and operating resources, and encourage economic development within the

municipality as permitted under the Municipal Act. The Vaughan Ventures policy indicates that partnering should be pursued only if it results in less cost to the taxpayer, while ensuring efficiencies, quality and level of service acceptable to Council.

If authorized to proceed, it would be the expectation that any proposal received in response to the RFP would, at a minimum, adhere to the following guiding principles:

- propose a site that will not negatively impact residents;
- provide a thorough proposed business plan that details operating, program and financial models and respective responsibilities;
- provide a description of the tennis dome, including material, size, lighting, noise variables and the required services to support the facility;
- purchase, install and maintain the tennis dome;
- obtain and pay for, where applicable, all necessary City approvals and permits including but not limited to, Committee of Adjustment approval and Building Permit;
- be responsible for any capital improvements and ongoing operational costs for the tennis courts and any clubhouse amendments if applicable;
- pay rent to the City for use of the tennis courts and clubhouse and contribute annually to a reserve fund for future capital repair and replacement; and,
- maintain the existing levels of service in the spring/summer seasons (i.e. open public tennis courts).

Indoor tennis, specifically during the winter months, is not a service offered by the City of Vaughan. Any successful proponent would have access to tennis courts, which are an underutilized asset during the winter months and as such, established service levels remain unchanged. If no proposals are received that address the above and are satisfactory to the City of Vaughan Council, the initiative would not proceed.

Recognizing that indoor tennis is not an exclusionary program or service an RFP would be a fair and transparent process to receive proposals for this initiative.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the report will provide:

- STRATEGIC GOAL:
Service Excellence - Providing service excellence to citizens.
- STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:
Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health & Wellness.

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

Regional Implications

There are no regional implications associated with this report.

Conclusion

That, based on several unsolicited proposals from the private sector in recent years, Council authorize staff, through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process, to receive proposals from interested proponents for the supply and installation of a seasonal tennis dome over existing outdoor tennis courts that would utilize the tennis courts by the private sector in the off-season and generate revenue and/or reduce the City's operating and capital costs.

Attachments

None

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Respectfully submitted,

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