

Markham Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2025, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Council Chamber

Sub-Committee Members	Regional Councillor Alan Ho, Chair Councillor Karen Rea Councillor Andrew Keyes Councillor Amanda Collucci Regional Councillor Jim Jones (Ex-Officio)
Regrets	Mayor Frank Scarpitti (Ex-Officio) Deputy Mayor Michael Chan (Ex-Officio) Councillor Joe Li (Ex-Officio)
Staff Members	Hristina Giantsopoulos, Committee Coordinator Eddy Wu, Director Environmental Services Robert Muir, Manager, Stormwater Zahra Parhizgari, Engineer, Environmental Services Jyothi Pathak, Project Manager, Parks Planning and Urban Design Iyana Mundo, Assistant to Council / Committee

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Markham Sub-Committee meeting convened at 9:07 AM.

Regional Councillor Alan Ho presided as Chair.

2. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

3.1 SWAN LAKE PARK DESIGNATION

The committee heard the following deputations:

John Sandilands expressed concerns with the park designation and classification as well as well as future development impacts.

Fred Peters requested an endorsement by Markham City Council for funding to develop an operational plan for the management of invasive plant species. (presentation attached)

City staff presented information regarding park classification and noted that they will review park classification criteria outlined in the Official Plan through Official Plan Review (OPR) project. It was noted that Swan Lake Park was classified as a community part, however, it does not meet that criteria as outlined in the 2014 Official Plan.

There was a brief discussion in relation to service level changes with respect to updated designation status.

Moved By Councillor Karen Rea

Seconded By Councillor Andrew Keyes

1. That the presentation titled "Agenda Item Requests from Friends of Swan Lake Park" be received for information purposes only; and,
2. That the deputations from John Sandilands and Fred Peters be received; and further,
3. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

3.2 SWAN LAKE PARK ANNUAL REPORTS

The committee heard the following deputation:

Kathleen Noel, expressed concerns over the goose barrier fencing proposed and proposed alternative solutions that are more humane, wildlife friendly and that are cost effective. She also presented a petition from conservation workers/advocates.

Staff advised that the goose exclusion fencing initiative is being undertaken in conjunction with the TRCA and is consistent with what was put in place at Toogood Pond.

The committee raised concerns regarding details of a pilot in the area and having members of the public volunteering to address invasive species and noted that any initiative should go through the budget process.

Robert Muir, Manager, Stormwater, Jyoti Pathak, Project Manager, Parks Planning & Urban Design, Zarah Parhizgari, Engineer, Environmental Services were in attendance and presented the Swan Lake Monitoring Program 2024 Annual Report and the Swan Lake Flow Diversion Assessment Consolidated Report which provided overviews of the history and location of Swan Lake and the status on current initiatives and monitoring results.

There was a brief discussion in relation to treatments of the lake, ph levels, and the aquatic environment and that additional diversion solutions are not recommended at this time. The committee supported the staff recommendation.

Moved By Councillor Andrew Keyes

Seconded By Councillor Karen Rea

1. That the report entitled "Swan Lake - 2024 Water Quality Status and Updates" be received; and,
2. That the consolidated report entitled "Swan Lake Flow Diversion Assessment" be received; and,
3. That the presentation titled "Swan Lake - Annual Meeting with Markham Subcommittee" be received; and,
4. That Staff continue to implement the Long-term Management Plan for Swan Lake approved by Council in December 2021, including advancements previously made from Phases 2 and 3 of the Plan; and,
5. That Staff report back annually on water quality results and evaluation of adapted Core and Complementary measures for consideration in Phase 2 of the Plan through the Markham Sub-Committee with the participation of the Friends of Swan Lake Park; and,
6. That Staff consider findings and evaluations of chloride diversion options in Phase 3 of the Plan if required given future chloride levels in the Lake; and,
7. That the deputation from Kathleen Noel be received; and,
8. That the Plan review be initiated in 2025 with consideration for a workshop to review external feedback; and further,
9. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Councillor Andrew Keyes

Seconded By Councillor Karen Rea

That the Markham Sub Committee Meeting adjourn at 11:07 AM.

Carried