



MINUTES
MARKHAM SUB-COMMITTEE
March 27, 2019, 10:00 a.m.
Canada Room

Committee/Ex-Officio Members

Mayor Frank Scarpitti
Deputy Mayor Don Hamilton
Regional Councillor Jack Heath
Councillor Karen Rea
Councillor Andrew Keyes
Councillor Amanda Collucci
Councillor Keith Irish

Staff

Lilli Duoba, Manager, Natural Heritage
Graham Seaman, Director, Sustainability and Asset Management
Stephen Chait, Director, Economic Growth, Culture and Entrepreneurship
Henry Lo, Senior Transportation Engineer, Transportation
Marg Wouters, Senior Manager, Policy & Research
Stephen Corr, Senior Planner, Planning & Urban Design
Abbie Kar, Senior Planner, Urban Design
Patrick Wong, Planner II, Natural Heritage
Scott Chapman, Election and Council/Committee Coordinator

Guests

Shonda Wang, SVN Architects and Planners
Ana Espinosa, SVN Architects and Planners
Ernest Abraham, Infrastructure Ontario
Richard Scott, Parks Canada
Shirley Marsh, York Region Rapid Transit
Ryan Wong, York Region Transportation
Frank Palombi, Lindvest Properties
Christian Lamanna, Madison Group
David Singer, Madison Group
Paul Nodwell, Schollen and Company

The Markham Sub-Committee convened at the hour of 10:09 am with Regional Councillor Jack Heath in the Chair.

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None disclosed.

2. STAFF UPDATE ON THE CORNELL ROUGE NATIONAL URBAN PARK GATEWAY STUDY AND PHASE 1 BACKGROUND REPORT

Lilli Duoba, Manager, Natural Heritage, delivered a background presentation on the Cornell Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP) Gateway Study, identifying the subject lands and the progress of the project to date. Key themes and ideas generated during the Phase 1 charette process as well as refined guiding principles for the design of the Gateway were identified.

3. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION BY THE STUDY CONSULTANTS ON THE PHASE 2 DRAFT STREETScape CONCEPT PLANS FOR THE GATEWAY

Shonda Wang of SVN Architects & Planners, consultants for the City of Markham, delivered a presentation on the draft Streetscape Concept Plans for the Gateway area, including preliminary proposals for right of way, landscaping and urban design features to facilitate an effective transition between the Cornell community and the RNUP.

The Committee discussed the following relative to the Gateway Streetscape Concept Plans:

- Addition of dedicated cycling lanes along Reesor Road to ensure separation between cyclists and pedestrians
- Potential need for right of way expansion and road widenings on Reesor Road to support anticipated increases in traffic within the Cornell Centre and Gateway area
- Importance of visual cues such as lighting and appropriate cross section treatments to signal the transition from urban space to a naturalized park
- Need to investigate crossing types implemented in transition areas for other national urban parks in Canada
- Ensuring trail linkages between the RNUP and the Rouge Valley trail
- Concerns about the potential impact of the Gateway development on traffic congestion in the east of Markham
- Need to ensure sufficient space for vehicular parking to promote and support the Gateway and RNUP as a destination for local residents and visitors
- Opportunities for on-street parking to support future mixed-use developments envisioned along Highway 7 between Reesor Road and the Donald Cousens Parkway
- Strategies for managing anticipated increases in vehicular traffic while facilitating safe movement and access for pedestrians and cyclists
- Strategies for providing orientation and assistance to visitors within the RNUP

4. DISCUSSION ON PHASE 3 PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Committee discussed the importance of consultation and coordination with property owners within and immediately outside the Gateway area to ensure proper integration and interfacing of future developments into the overall design of the Gateway.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Sub-Committee adjourned at 12:09 pm.