

Attachment B-Feedback from Coyote Watch Canada on Markham Site Visits

Coyote Watch Canada completed a site visit of the locations where coyote sightings are being reported. They reported the following:

Site visits were completed at all reported active coyote areas including Paramount Park, Fincham Park, Mintleaf Park, Swan Lake and the Markham Museum. Upon inspection, it was noted that all of the areas were very naturalized and had coverage options for the coyotes. There were treed areas and access to adequate food and water. There was also an abundance of food waste and household garbage at most of the locations. Signage was adequate for most areas, however small improvements have been recommended that include placement of signs, and the addition of feeding wildlife by-law provisions. The known dens in the areas have been filled in or the entrance has been blocked so as to discourage any future use by coyotes in the area. Additional recommendations include education to local school principles on coyote behaviours and how to discourage coyotes from the property. This has been added to the community outreach program, which will be performed by Animal Care Officers. Coyote Watch Canada also commends Markham for the extended efforts in wildlife preservation and the encouragement of co-existence. The proposed strategy has been reviewed by Lesley Sampson, Executive Director and the City's approach has been endorsed by the organization. Staff will continue to work cooperatively with Coyote Watch Canada on all future concerns relating to coyotes in Markham. This will include annual site inspections where multiple sightings are reported, as well as any attacks on domestic dogs or humans.