Hau, Lucy

(27)

Subject: FW: Former Sabiston Landfill
Attachments: Golder Associates article.pdf

From: Al Dharsee
Sent: June 25, 2012 6:34 PM
To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; info@germanmills.org; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Subject: Former Sabiston Landfill

Dear Mayor & Councillors:

Maybe a report from a professional engineering firm like Golder Associates who specialise in landfills (http://www.golder.ca/en/modules.php?name=Pages&sp_id=331) will give professional confirmation that the former Sabiston Landfill is now safe (after 37 years) and does not need any aerobic treatment. See attached article.

Al Dharsee

Re-evaluating municipal solid waste diversion

By Shelley Wilkinson and Paul Van Geel, PhD, P.Eng.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Should governments strive for maximum waste diversion? Or are certain waste items more beneficial to divert than others from a cost and environmental perspective? For example, does food waste have an equivalent diversion value to plastics, metals and paper? The answers to these and related questions are increasingly complex because of the current variety in waste facility options as well as the integrated nature of waste management planning and engineering.

The United Nations defines integrated solid waste management (ISWM) as "the strategic approach to sustainable management of solid wastes covering all sources and all aspects, covering generation, segregation, transfer, sorting, treatment, recovery and disposal in an integrated manner, with an emphasis on maximizing resource use efficiency" (UN, 2009). ISWM supports the view that waste planning should be addressed at a system level, rather than at the individual unit process level.

This paper explores five different ISWM strategies for the City of Ottawa, using a life-cycle analysis approach. The purpose is to provide a comparison of various levels of waste diversion and two different landfill options (bioreactor landfill and conventional landfill). Comparisons were performed using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Municipal Solid Waste Decision Support Tool (MSW-DST), developed by the Research Triangle Institute (RTI), which calculates the net total cost and environmental releases associated with each unit process (i.e., curbside collection, composting, landfill disposal and remanufacturing).

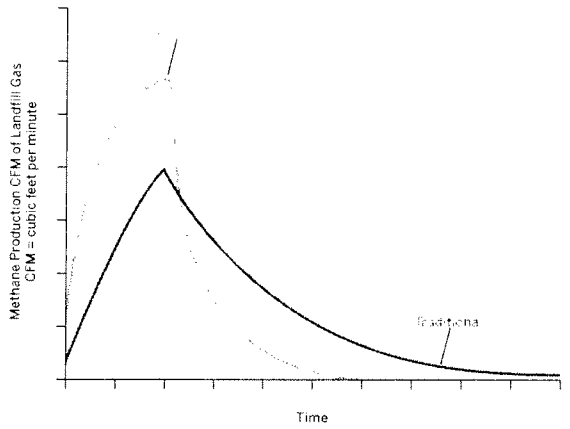
The study concluded that a bioreactor-based strategy without organics diversion is likely to be more economical, lower greenhouse gas emissions and consume less energy than a traditional landfill strategy with organics diversion. In other words, diverting the organic waste of low-market value, including leaf and yard waste and other organic waste, away from a landfill with energy recovery is not optimal from a cost or environmental-burdens perspective. As such, the paper suggests that the green bin program, the darling of Ontario environmental programs, may not, in fact, be the greenest strategy available.

In Ontario, most municipalities manage solid waste with the goal of diverting as much waste as possible from landfills. This approach has been driven by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment's target to divert 60 per cent of total waste tonnage from landfills by 2008 (MOE, 2004). By 2009, Ontario's waste diversion rate was only 22 per cent. Although waste diversion from a conventional landfill has notable benefits, much recent research points to the advantages of bioreactor landfills (EPA; WM; Reinhart et al., 2002).

Bioreactor landfills differ from conventional landfills primarily through the addition of liquid to enhance the microbial process. Such a process allows for more efficient degradation and stabilization of organic waste, thus increasing the amount of free space in the landfill and subsequently extending its useful life. The anaerobic environment of a bioreactor landfill, in conjunction with the availability of organic waste, also allows for the production of landfill gas (methane) at an earlier stage and at a higher rate than a conventional landfill (Figure 1), which in turn allows for improved energy generation.

A bioreactor landfill also has the potential to reduce transportation demands since a large portion of the organic waste could be combined and collected with the remaining municipal solid waste at the curb, rather than be sent to a separate processing facility. A combined collection program, with fewer trucks on the road, would likely translate into reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and other atmospheric pollutants, as well as reduced collection costs and potentially greater social benefits, including the reduction of traffic, traffic noise and dust.

Figure 1: Typical lifespan gas prediction curves for a bioreactor and traditional landfill



Source: U.S. Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council, 2006

This paper compares the outcomes of bioreactor landfill strategies, based on reduced waste diversion targets, with conventional landfill strategies, based on higher waste diversion targets. A bioreactor strategy without organics diversion might have the potential to be more economically efficient, reduce GHG emissions and consume less energy than the current waste diversion approach. This research draws into question key elements of Ontario's waste management policy and suggests that there are superior policy directions worth pursuing.

STUDY SITE AND THE FIVE INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

This research is based on Shelley Wilkinson's master's thesis under the supervision of Paul Van Geel. Wilkinson selected the city of Ottawa as the study site, where the current waste diversion strategy includes blue box (glass, metal and plastic) and black box (paper and cardboard) recycling along with leaf and yard waste composting at a windrow composting facility. Five integrated solid waste management (ISWM) strategies were compared, the first four of which subsumed the current waste diversion program:

1. **Landfill flare.** Remaining waste, including organic waste, is disposed of in a traditional landfill. Landfill gas is about 40 per cent to 60 per cent methane, with the remainder being mostly carbon dioxide.
2. **Landfill energy recovery.** Captured landfill gas is converted to energy with an internal combustion engine.
3. **Organics program.** This strategy introduces a green bin program, where organics are collected and diverted from the residual waste stream and treated in an aerobic in-vessel composting facility. Ottawa introduced this type of program in January 2010. Residual waste is sent to traditional landfill and captured landfill gas is flared.
4. **Bioreactor.** Leaf and yard waste and remaining residual waste, including all organic waste, is placed in a bioreactor landfill. Captured landfill gas is combusted for energy.
5. **Bioreactor blue box.** In addition to the bioreactor strategy, only blue box materials are recycled. Black box materials are sent to a landfill.

LIFE-CYCLE APPROACH

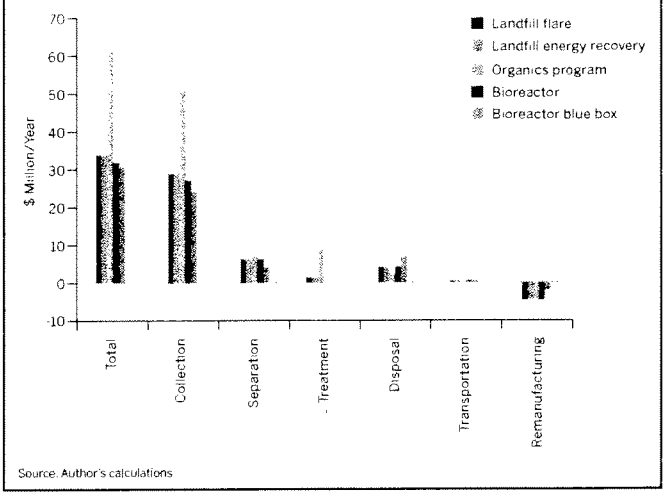
Each of the five ISWM strategies was assessed according to a life-cycle analysis approach that considers all cost and environmental burdens and benefits associated with each waste unit process, from manufacture to disposal. Wilkinson selected the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Municipal Solid Waste Decision Support Tool (MSW-DST), developed by the Research Triangle Institute (RTI), to conduct these life-cycle assessments because of its comprehensiveness, potential to adjust variables and high academic credibility. According to the model's developers:

> "The MSW-DST enables users to simulate existing MSW management practices and conduct scenario analyses of new strategies based on cost and environmental objectives. The MSW-DST includes multiple design options for waste collection, transfer, materials recovery, composting, waste-to-energy and landfill disposal. The MSW-DST can be used to identify and evaluate cost and environmental aspects associated with specific waste management strategies or existing systems. It can also be used to identify costs and environmental aspects of proposed strategies such as those designed to meet recycling and waste diversion goals, quantify potential environmental benefits associated with recycling, identify strategies for optimizing energy recovery from MSW, and evaluate options for reducing greenhouse gases, air pollutants and environmental releases to water bodies or ecosystems."

RESULTS

In Figure 2, the net annual cost for each of the five different waste management scenarios can be seen. The bioreactor blue box strategy is the most cost-effective, followed by the bioreactor strategy. The

Figure 2: Costs for different strategies



Source: Author's calculations

remaining three landfill-based strategies have the highest net annual costs, with the organics strategy being the least cost-effective.

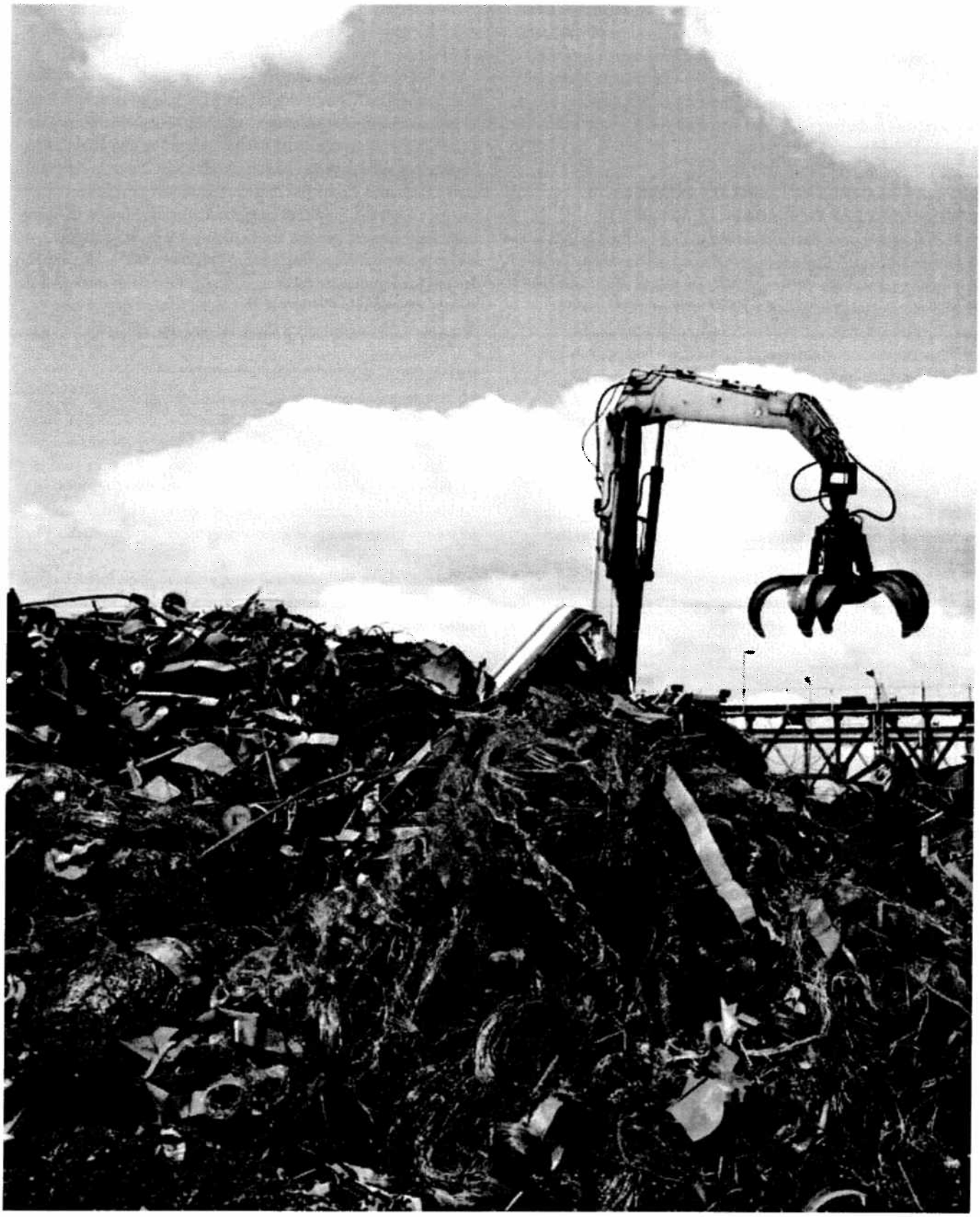
The bioreactor strategy is the most cost-effective because of the savings associated with collection, separation and treatment. The cost savings associated with collection come from the combined collection of all waste items except for the blue box recyclables. Separation cost savings result from the fact that paper and cardboard are not recycled and there is no composting facility. Even though the bioreactor strategy has relatively high disposal costs because of the greater volume of waste being disposed of and relatively small remanufacturing savings because of its reduced recycling rate, the benefits associated with the other unit processes offset these costs.

The bioreactor approach has cost savings associated with the collection and treatment unit processes. However, the cost savings associated with collection are not as pronounced as they are for the bioreactor blue box strategy because black box collection requires additional vehicle operation and maintenance costs.

Separation costs for the bioreactor strategy surpass those for the bioreactor blue box strategy because of black box separation. Treatment costs are zero since no composting facility is required. Remanufacturing savings for the bioreactor strategy are greater than for the bioreactor blue box strategy because of the sale of black box recyclables.

Finally, the bioreactor strategy has the second highest disposal costs, behind the bioreactor blue box approach, because of the relatively high volume of waste being disposed of. Inter-unit transportation costs are relatively insignificant in contrast to the other unit operations.

The two landfill-based strategies (flare and energy recovery) have identical unit process costs, except for a slight disposal cost difference. Even though higher capital costs are required to purchase and install the equipment necessary for energy recovery such as an internal combustion engine, the payoffs resulting from the sale of this energy allow the landfill energy recovery strategy to have a slight cost advantage over the landfill flare strategy. The organics strategy is identical to the landfill flare strategy from the perspective of separation and remanufacturing since both strategies separate and remanufacture all available recyclables.



The authors' study concluded that a bioreactor-based landfill without organics diversion is likely to be more economical, produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions and consume less energy than a traditional landfill strategy with organics diversion

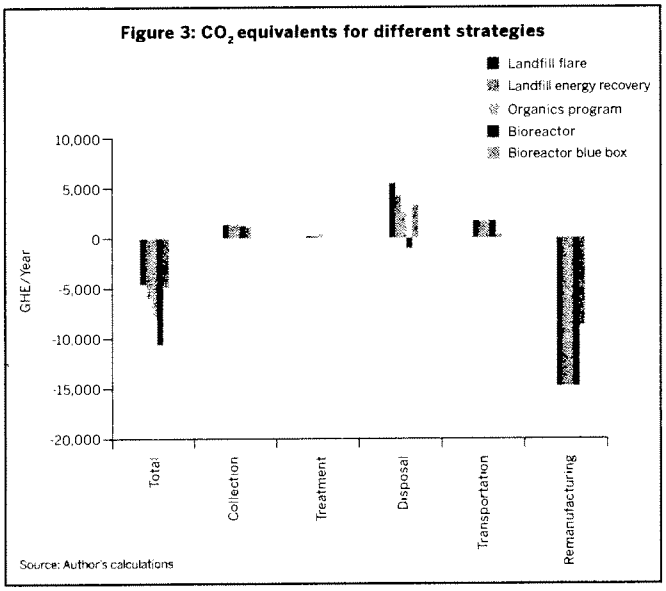
However, the organics method has significantly higher collection costs than the other strategies because Ottawa's green bin program collects the organics separately. According to the city, the green bin program costs $13.6 million annually in operating costs, plus an additional $400,000 in amortized capital costs. Disposal costs for the organics strategy are the lowest relative to the four other waste management approaches because it has the highest waste diversion rate.

NET ANNUAL CARBON DIOXIDE EQUIVALENT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

GHG emissions result from the combustion of fossil fuels as well as the anaerobic biodegradation of organic materials such as methane production in landfills. Offsets of GHG emissions result from the displacement of fossil fuels (e.g., reduced amounts of collection), recycling of materials and the diversion of organic waste from landfills. The net annual GHG emissions for each strategy investigated are measured in imperial tons of CO_2 equivalent greenhouse gas emissions (GHEs) per year.

Figure 3 shows the net annual GHE tonnages for each of the five different waste management scenarios. Since all five have net annual negative GHE tonnages, they all produce a net savings or offset of GHG emissions. The bioreactor strategy displays the highest GHE offset, followed by the organics approach, the landfill energy recovery strategy and, finally, the bioreactor blue box and landfill flare methods with similar values.

Figure 3: CO_2 equivalents for different strategies



The GHE value for the organics strategy is an underestimate since it does not account for an additional fleet of collection vehicles, all combusting carbon-based fuel, and an additional set of collection bins produced by emission-releasing processes. The breakdown of these totals indicates that the remanufacturing process model has the largest influence on the resulting net values. The first four strategies have the highest remanufacturing GHE offsets because they have the highest recycling rates.

The disposal unit process has the next largest influence on the net total GHE values. After the bioreactor strategy, the organics approach produces the next lowest amount of disposal-related GHEs because of its high diversion rate of organics and reduced landfill gas production. However, one of the downsides to a landfill with low organic content is the relatively slow biological decomposition of the waste.

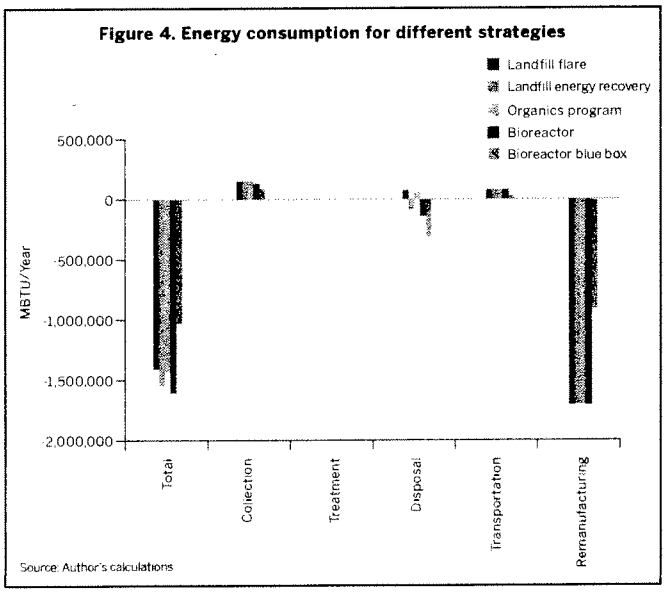
The bioreactor blue box strategy produces the next lowest amount of disposal-related GHEs and is influenced primarily by its high landfill gas capture rates (95 per cent), its relatively high volume of organic waste with high-methane and energy-generating potential and its displacement of electrical grid source emissions (Ontario electrical energy generation is split coal, 18 per cent; natural gas, eight per cent; nuclear, 52 per cent; and hydro, 22 per cent. [Ontario Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure]). The next lowest GHEs come from the landfill energy recovery strategy, where only 75 per cent of the landfill gas is captured and combusted for energy. Finally, the strategy producing the highest disposal-related GHEs is the landfill flare strategy, where 75 per cent of the landfill gas is captured and simply flared.

NET ANNUAL ENERGY CONSUMPTION

All waste management activities consume energy through fuel consumption and the indirect processes required to produce these energy inputs, such as the production of diesel fuel from crude oil. Energy can also be produced by some waste management activities such as landfill gas-to-energy operations and can be avoided or offset by other activities such as materials recovery through recycling. If the energy offset by a given strategy is greater than the energy consumed, a net savings will result.

Figure 4 shows the net annual energy consumption for each of the five different waste management scenarios. Since all five scenarios show net negative total energy consumption values, they produce a net savings or offset of energy. The bioreactor strategy displays the highest net annual energy offset, followed by the landfill energy recovery method, the organics strategy, the landfill flare approach and, finally, the bioreactor blue box strategy.

Figure 4. Energy consumption for different strategies



As before, the energy values obtained for the organics strategy are an underestimate. Similar to the results seen for GHEs, the breakdown of these energy totals indicates that the remanufacturing process model has the largest influence on the resulting net values. The first

Table 1: 2010 operating costs of Ottawa's green program

Description of Cost	Total $ 2010
Collection contracts	**Full Year**
New organics collection	7,436,000
Savings in residual/regular garbage collection	-3,233,000
Savings in leaf and yard collection	-1,686,000
Increase in recycling collection	1,431,000
Net increase of collection contracts (A)	**3,948,000**
RFP-based processing contracts	**Full Year**
Organics processing	7,794,000
Recycling processing (fibre and container)	310,000
Total impact on processing contracts (B)	**8,104,000**
In-house collection group for Zone 3	**Full Year**
Nine vehicle operators and one supervisor	565,000
Fleet operating costs for new organics and supervisor vehicles (10 in total)	1,225,000
Total in-house collection group (C)	**1,790,000**
Other costs and revenues	**Full Year**
One additional waste inspector (including costs for one vehicle)	85,000
Ongoing communications, compliance promotion and program support costs	416,000
Estimated increase in recyclable revenues and Waste Diversion Ontario funding	-756,000
Total other costs and revenues (D)	**-255,000**
Total net operating costs (A+B+C+D)	**13,587,000**

Source: City of Ottawa, 2009

four strategies have the highest remanufacturing GHE offsets because they have the highest recycling rates.

The disposal unit process shows the most variation in energy consumption values between strategies. Three of the strategies have net negative energy consumption values, while the other two have net positive values. The three with net negative energy consumption values include the landfill energy recovery and the two bioreactor strategies. The reason for this negative energy value is that all three of these methods produce energy from landfill gas. Since the bioreactor blue box strategy sends the greatest volume of biodegradable organic waste to its bioreactor landfill, it has the highest methane production and, therefore, the highest energy production potential.

The bioreactor strategy sends the next greatest volume of organic waste to its landfill, followed by the landfill energy recovery approach, thus explaining the observed trend. Another factor contributing to the relatively high energy offsets for the bioreactor strategies is their high landfill gas capture rates (95 per cent versus 75 per cent for the landfill energy recovery strategy). For the collection, separation, treatment and inter-unit transportation unit process models, the energy consumption trends mirror those obtained for the GHEs, for similar reasons.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The MSW-DST model has proven to be an effective life-cycle assessment tool for comparing various integrated solid waste management strategies. The main findings drawn from this study are the following:

Cost: Both bioreactor strategies are more cost-effective, primarily because of their reduced collection and treatment costs in contrast to the other methods. As can be seen in Table 1, Ottawa will spend nearly $13.6 million this year to operate its green program.

GHEs: The bioreactor strategy has the greatest GHG emission offset and is primarily influenced by the offsets associated with remanufacturing and a high landfill gas-capture rate.

Energy Consumption: The bioreactor strategy has the greatest energy offset, which is due primarily to the offsets associated with remanufacturing and a high landfill gas-capture rate (with energy recovery).

The results of this project confirm that, for the City of Ottawa at least, a bioreactor-based ISWM strategy is likely to be more economically efficient, reduce GHG emissions and consume less energy in contrast to the current waste diversion approach. In other words, diverting the organic waste of low market value (leaf and yard waste and organic waste) away from a landfill with energy recovery is not optimal from cost, energy consumption or GHG emission perspectives. Some additional benefits of bioreactor landfills in contrast to conventional landfills include the following:

- Landfill gas production is available at an earlier stage and higher rate than in a traditional landfill.
- Enhanced waste stabilization and compaction result in additional landfill space.
- Reduced post-closure care and costs (WM, 2010; Warith, 2002).

Although this research project has clearly demonstrated the significant economic and environmental benefits of a bioreactor-based ISWM strategy for Ottawa, they must be balanced against social and political elements. The Ottawa program operates in the context of Ontario's waste diversion policy, which puts some constraints on municipalities. The city has also signed a 20-year composting contract with Orgaworld Canada Ltd., and getting out of the contract would be costly.

Nevertheless, there is compelling evidence in favour of greater use of bioreactor landfill technology and the ISWM planning approach. Other cities and municipalities ought to conduct a comprehensive ISWM analysis in order to properly inform citizens, policy-makers, MPPs and MPs of the pros and cons of various waste management strategies and facilities.

Shelley Wilkinson is a consultant with global ground engineering and environmental services company Golder Associates Ltd. in Whitby, Ontario. Wilkinson holds a master's degree in environmental engineering from Carleton University and an undergraduate degree in biology and environmental science from Queen's University.

Paul J. Van Geel, P.Eng., is a professor in environmental engineering with the department of civil and environmental engineering at Carleton University. Van Geel, who earned his PhD from the University of Waterloo, specializes in hydrogeology and environmental geotechnical engineering.

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Waste Management (WM). "Bioreactor Landfills." Available at www.wm.com/wm/environmental/bioreactor.asp. 2010.

28

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Notice of Motion re former Sabiston Pit

From: Lloyd Mather
Sent: June 22, 2012 10:29 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Notice of Motion re former Sabiston Pit

Dear Howard;

Please be advised that I am in whole-hearted support of your motion to not proceed with the pilot project Aerobic Bioreactor Landfill Technology in the former Sabiston Pit, now Settler's Park. As a Professional Engineer (now retired), I can see no benefit from the proposed pilot test for our area. I also support your recommendations for improvements to the existing systems.

Lloyd Mather

29

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Support of German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat

From: Janet Gargano
Sent: June 22, 2012 9:59 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Subject: Support of German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat

I am writing to support the motion of Councilor Howard Shore to declare Aerobic Bioreactor Landfill Technology pilot project no longer under consideration by the Town of Markham and bring this greenspace into the Markham park system and designate it as the "German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat" as recognition of the unique and special character of this site.

Our family enjoys hikes through this meadow. We've enjoyed the wildlife (deer, coyote, finches, red winged blackbirds...), and the changes in the vegetation from season to season. To have the option of hiking through this natural terrain in the midst of our subdivision is so refreshing! It's one of the reasons we decided to continue living in the German Mills neighbourhood.

I support Councillor Shore's motion 100%, and would hope that the Council will decide June 26th support this motion.

Sincerely,

Janet Gargano
German Mills Resident

(30)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: support of Councilor Shore's Motion on Settlers Park Meadow and Natural Habitat (The Former Sabiston Landfill)

From: ufuk gurmen
Sent: June 23, 2012 8:19 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Subject: support of Councilor Shore's Motion on Settlers Park Meadow and Natural Habitat (The Former Sabiston Landfill)

Hi,
My name is Jasmine Gurmen. I am the resident of 61 Dawn Hill Trail.
Please note that I support Councilor Shore's Motion about the Former Sebastion Landfill. I am satisfied with the existing anaerobic/conventional technology and I oppose the aerobic proposal. I also support the idea of adding this unique greenspace to the Markham Park System as proposed in the Motion.
Please support the Motion on June 26 2012 and protect our greenspace and do not allow the aerobic bioreactor experiment.

Regards

Jasmine Gurmen

Sent from my iPad

31

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: I would like to say NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal.

From: Yuk Ping Leung
Sent: June 23, 2012 8:17 AM
To: Clerks Public
Subject: I would like to say NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Being a resident of Thornhill area, I would like to say "NO" to the aerobic bioreactor proposal.

DON'T WASTE PEOPLE'S TIME, STOP THIS CRAZY IDEA FOREVER!!!

Yours truly,

Yuk Ping LEUNG

32

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Say NO to the aerobic bioreactor proposal!!!

From: GALEN LEUNG
Sent: June 23, 2012 8:36 AM
To: Clerks Public
Subject: Say NO to the aerobic bioreactor proposal!!!

Dear Sir/Madam,

I support Councillor Shore's motion to protect our green area. Please STOP this non-sense project forever!!!

Thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,

Galen LEUNG

33

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Former Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Proposal and Councillor Shore's Motion

From: eileen liasi
Sent: June 23, 2012 9:05 AM
To: Campbell, Colin; Shore, Howard; Landon, Gord; Burke, Valerie; Hamilton, Don; Jones, Jim; Scarpitti, Frank; Kanapathi, Logan; Heath, Jack; Moretti, Carolina; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Li, Joe
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Former Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Proposal and Councillor Shore's Motion

German Mills
Thornhill

23.06.2012.

Re. Former Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Pilot Project and Councillor Shore's Motion

This is to inform the Town and all Council Members that the German Mills Residents Association located immediately to the east of the valley of German Mills Creek and the Sabiston Landfill oppose the Aerobic Pilot Project proposed by the Town and support Councillor Shore's motion. We ask that this matter be dealt with on June 26, 2012 finally and irrevocably, so that this matter is never raised again.

Eileen Liasi.

VP GMRA.

34

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Pilot Project

Importance: High

-----Original Message-----
From:
Sent: June 23, 2012 10:55 AM
To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Clerks Public; Shore,
Subject: Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Pilot Project
Importance: High

Hoping that you are enjoying this glorious weather, with which we've been blessed, and that you will take the time today and/or tomorrow to stroll down the lovely ravine lands, where the project is proposed.

We believe - as we are certain that you do - in the continued sustainability and viability of those lands, where children and families stroll and picnic, where salmon spawn in the creeks, and where falcons and other birds nest. The release of methane and/or of other gases will endanger that environment, its habitat, fauna and flora, as well as its users.

Opposing the project while protecting the lands is not only the RIGHT thing to do, it's the ONLY thing to do, for the future of those lands and for the future generations of Markham residents.

Accordingly, we OPPOSE the Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Pilot Project proposed by the City of Markham, and we SUPPORT the protection of those lands and therefore agree with Councillor Shore's Motion to be heard at Council at its meeting on June 26, 2012.

Thank you for your consideration, and see you on the ravine!

A bientôt, ciao.

Antoinette Bozac and family
Proud long-time residents of Thornhill/Markham

Sent from my BlackBerry device on the Rogers Wireless Network

(35)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Final NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal

From: DIANNE KEHOE
Sent: June 24, 2012 12:15 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Mike Kehoe; Meaghan Kehoe; Danielle Kehoe
Subject: Final NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal

Howard,

My family are long time residents of Pine Knoll Gate...25 Years in fact! We bought here because of the meadow, greenery and the whole Settlers Park...where we go to take green walks, enjoy the many birds and animals that make the meadow their home, and walk our dog.

I have been paying close attention to all the in-depth information at hand and ask that NO aerobic bioreactor be brought in here. It is unnecessary in our minds!!

We will be out on Tuesday evening at the Civic Center to support our belief against moving forward with this aerobic bioreactor proposal and leaving the park permanently untouched.

Thank you,

Dianne, Michael, Meaghan, Danielle (and Tux)

Dianne Kehoe

36

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Former Sabiston Landfill - Community Rally

From: Araxie Altounian
Sent: June 24, 2012 7:14 PM
To: Shore, Howard
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Re: Former Sabiston Landfill - Community Rally

Dear Howard,

Thank you for all the effort you have made to preserve the unique meadowland that the former Sabiston landfil has become. This park is very important to us, the residents of the area, and we appreciate your input to preserve it the way it is. The aerobic system, as ecologically sound as it may seem, is best suited for new landfills, and we have no doubt that it will disturb (if not destroy) the natural habitat that is already established in the Sabiston area. Plants and wildlife will suffer, residents will lose their park, and most likely real estate value in the adjacent neighbourhoods will be negatively affected as well. The price to pay for the aerobic system seems to be too high.

It would be best if the City of Markham explored other possibilities to control the methane production which is already minimal.

I fully support your motion, and urge the City to say a final NO to the aerobic system proposal.

Best regards,

Araxie Altounian
Resident, Cottonwood Court

37

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: We support Councillor Shore's motion 100%. We oppose the aerobic proposal

From: yuanming dong
Sent: June 24, 2012 8:52 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Subject: We support Councillor Shore's motion 100%. We oppose the aerobic proposal

Dear Sir/Madam,

We **support Councillor Shore's motion 100%**.

We **oppose the aerobic** proposal.

We wish to **continue with current anaerobic/conventional technology** and are fully satisfied with the measures that the Town currently takes to ensure residents' safety with regards to monitoring methane levels. We ask for your support to **protect our greenspace** and to not allow this unique natural and wildlife habitat to be sacrificed for the sake of an aerobic bioreactor experimen. We support the idea of **adding this unique greenspace to the Markham Park System** as proposed in the Motion.

Cottonwood Crt Neibours

38

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Protected Status for Settlers Park

-----Original Message-----
From: Nova Moffat
Sent: June 24, 2012 9:04 PM
To: Shore, Howard
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Protected Status for Settlers Park

I vote to support Councillor Shore's motion to protect our greenspace.
FINAL NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal.
Nova Moffat

4c

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Councillor Shore's Motion
Attachments: Sabiston Pit.jpg

From: EILEEN CARTER
Sent: June 24, 2012 10:49 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Councillor Shore's Motion

I support Councillor Shore's motion regarding the proposed Sabiston Landfill Aerobic Pilot Project.
Attached is a picture of the area taken after the rain this evening. This is what people don't want to give up enjoying the beauty of. It's like living in the country.

Regards,

Eileen (Smith) Carter

(41)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Sabiston submission

-----Original Message-----
From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 10:06 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Sabiston submission

Hi Kimberley,

Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.

Thank you,

Howard

"I wanted to comment and give my perspective on this as German Mills Settler's Park has a special place in my heart...

Just to clarifty, Settler's Park is safe from development, and is entirely Town owned! I and the GMRA fought a 4 year battle to preserve the park in its entirety from 1999-2003.

But the issue now is that the Town, and some external consultants want to make changes to the landfill and the way it is managed. The landfill is located on the western slope of the park, west of the Don river in an area that comprises roughly 40 acres.

Currently, you would never know there is a landfil there! It is covered over by beautiful meadow now, home to the GTA's second most productive bird migration zone and habitat.

The changes to the landfil are not necessary in my opinion. It would be a test case for consultants who want to use it and inject water into the landfill to rapidly decompose the waste underneath, they also claim it will reduce methane discharged from the landfill (which itself has tapered off significantly since the 1970's).

The consultant has formed a partnership with Seneca college, in the hopes of making a persuasive "research" case for conducting this experiment.

The other issue is that
the landfil is leaching chemicals into the Don River. The Town needs to install a proper collection system and should move immediately to install it, regardless of the consultants' proposal. I believe this is in the motion going to council on Tuesday night, which is good. (Note the proposed landfill changes would inject water into the landfill and discharge even more leachate into the creek!)

The Town also has a masterplan to create a more defined park on the western slope. This has been on hold until a decision is made about the landfill. In my view the masterplan should keep the meadow habitat and make very little changes to the park as it is now.

I do not support the proposal to introduce aerobic digestion for the landfill. I did not support it when I was Councillor, and I do not support it now. It is no place for such a test, with too many residents and wildlife potentially affected by the proposed changes.

I urge residents to attend Tuesday's meeting and voice their support for the park and the community by supporting the motion being made by Deputy Mayor Heath and Councillor Shore.

I sincerely hope Markham Council keeps the park a sanctuary for wildlife and people to enjoy without disruption.

Best Regards,

Erin Shapero
Former Markham Councillor, Ward 2 Thornhill."
Sent from my BlackBerry device on the Rogers Wireless Network

Hau, Lucy (42)

Subject: FW: rejection of Aerobic bio-reactor

-----Original Message-----
From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 10:09 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: rejection of Aerobic bio-reactor

Hi Kimberley,

Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.

Thank you,

Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

----- Original Message -----
From:
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:07 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Subject: rejection of Aerobic bio-reactor

Dear Howard, I am fully in agreement with your motion to stop the Aerobic pilot project. I would also like to support that the motion gets settled on 26th June and not deferred. I am a Rate payer in Markham. (22 Framingham drive Thornhill)
kind regards,
Andrew Cooks

(43)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Former Sabiston landfill, now a calm meadow

From: Debra Saxe/Debra Fink
Sent: June-25-12 9:39 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Former Sabiston landfill, now a calm meadow

To the Town Clerk:

I would like to add my name to those objecting to the proposed aerobic mitigation for the former Sabiston landfill.

The decomposition has reached a stage after several decades where it is progressing slowly enough to be less dangerous than redigging and speeding it up; the community has grown up around it; and the area itself has turned into a valuable wildlife preserve and community park. In fact, without realizing it, I have been using the area several times a week for exercise.

Unfortunately, I will be working tomorrow evening and will not be able to attend the Town Council meeting. Please add my name to the record of those residents opposed.

Thank you.

Debra C. Saxe

44

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Save this Green Space

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 9:27 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Save this Green Space
Hi Kimberley,

Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,

Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: Florence Buchowski
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 11:37 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Subject: Save this Green Space

Councillor Howard Shore

Howard,

We do not support the proposal to introduce aerobic digestion for the Settler's Park landfill. It is covered over by beautiful
meadow, home to significant bird migration and habitant. In our opinion, the changes to the landfill are not necessary.

Regards,

Ted & Florence Buchowski

45

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Stop the Aerobic Bioreactor Pilot Project in Settlers Park

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 9:29 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Stop the Aerobic Bioreactor Pilot Project in Settlers Park
Hi Kimberley,

Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,

Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: Anthony Lee 李啓華
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 08:32 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Subject: Stop the Aerobic Bioreactor Pilot Project in Settlers Park

I am totally against the Aerobic Bioreactor Pilot Project in Settlers Park. I am a resident in the park neighborhood.

--
Sent from Gmail Mobile

46

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Settlers' Park: NO to Aerobic System

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 9:29 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Settlers' Park: NO to Aerobic System
Hi Kimberley,
Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,
Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: LCYP
Sent: Sunday, June 24, 2012 06:05 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Subject: Settlers' Park: NO to Aerobic System

Hello Councilor Shore,

I'm sending this email on behalf of five adults and two kids. We live on Cottonwood Court. We frequent Settlers' Park daily.

We support your motion. In fact, as constituents, it is an election issue.

We **oppose** the aerobic proposal.

We wish to continue with current anaerobic/conventional technology and are fully satisfied with the measures that the Town currently employs to ensure residents' safety.

We ask for your support to protect our greenspace and ensure that this natural and wildlife habitat not be sacrificed for the sake of an experiment that is costly (taxpayers' money!) and unnecessary.

We also support the idea of adding this unique greenspace to the Markham Park System, as proposed in the Motion.

Thank you for insisting that the matter of the aerobic proposal be voted on this week. It has been debated for more than 6 years now and we're happy to be able to finally put it to rest.

Liv Corriero, kids and neighbours

47

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Support of your motion re Sabiston Pit

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 9:32 AM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Support of your motion re Sabiston Pit
Hi Kimberley,

Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,

Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: Peter K. MacLeod
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 09:31 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Cc: Heath, Jack; Chiu, Alex; Li, Joe; Kanapathi, Logan; Burke, Valerie; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Scarpitti, Frank; Hamilton, Don; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord
Subject: Support of your motion re Sabiston Pit

Councillor Shore, I fully support your motion to obliterate the $500,000 aerobic test of the Sabiston Pit area and leave the landscape as it is. I don't have to reiterate what local residents already have said that it is an unnecessary waste of money to test the soil. Heavens, all those off leash dogs that *local* owners let loose on the pit area would have been dead long ago if there was a problem, never mind the trees that are now growing on the pit area, and the salmon that come up Settlers Creek to spawn in the fall. These fish wouldn't be there if it was contaminated.

Again, I fully support your motion to reject any $500,000 testing of the soil as completely a waste of the taxpayers money. Tax dollars that would be much better spent protecting the residential homeowners of Markham from the the pathetic property standards by-laws and enforcement in particular that will be incorporated into the City of Markham.

Oh yes, as a German Mills resident, I do use Settlers Park for daily constitutionals, from Steeles to John. How many of the German Mills *community and Association* actually do so?

Peter K. MacLeod
German Mills

(48)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: German Mills
Attachments: LETTTER German Mills Preservation .docx

From: Hasan Naqvi
Sent: June 25, 2012 10:48 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; info@germanmills.org; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Subject: German Mills

The attached important letter is regarding the Green space of the former Sabiston Landfill and the Aerobic Project/experiment German Mills, Thornhill for the Mayor of Markham and councilors attention, from a resident of German Mills in Thornhill.

Regards,

Hasan and Zenab Naqvi

(49)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Letter regarding motion submitted for former Sabiston Landfill

From: Domnita E. Postea [mailto:domnita.postea@gmail.com]
Sent: June 26, 2012 10:24 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; info@germanmills.org; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin
Subject: Letter regarding motion submitted for former Sabiston Landfill

Dear Councilor Shore,

We received the news of your upcoming motion with extreme joy. It is wonderful to see logic prevail and to gain your support which will hopefully ensure that, once and for all, Settlers Park will be saved.

We've been living on Cottonwood Court since 2008. We were so excited, our first spring, to wake up every morning to the sights and sounds of the meadow. Our children delight in the sight of deer, rabbits and birds that come all the way up to the fence, and we all enjoy this oasis in the middle of the city, by biking or walking through it almost every day.

While we've known about the fact that there used to be a landfill in the area, through the city's successful management of the system currently in place we were satisfied with the measures taken by the Town and the Ministry to ensure our safety while preserving the natural habitat.

We would be very happy to maintain the status quo after having a chance to review the methane levels from the probe close to our backyard and the results of the in house methane level testing. Constant methane monitoring measures are of course needed and welcome to maintain a safe environment for our families.

We do not want to become the testing ground for a risky experiment, which will at the very least disturb the wildlife and increase noise and smell levels in the area, and in the worst case create ongoing problems of land settlement, pollution, destruction of the environment, and make our street uninhabitable.

We hope that the Council, after reviewing all the data, and having had a chance to visit the former landfill site, will support your motion 100% and this way end this 6-year long debate by making the decision which shows the most support for the families and wildlife in the area.

We are cc'ing the other parties involved in the decision on this letter to ask to please vote in favour of Councillor Shore's motion as it expresses the interests of the community, it is rooted in fact and expertise, and will ensure the space is protected for generations to come by becoming a recognized part of Markham's Park System.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Elena Domnita Postea and Eugen Postea

50

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Final NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 12:04 PM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Final NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal
Hi Kimberley,
Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,
Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: EDITH KANGAS [mailto:kangas4@rogers.com]
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 11:59 AM
To: Shore, Howard
Subject: Final NO to aerobic bioreactor proposal

June 25, 2012

Dear Councillor Shore,

I support your motion to stop the Aerobic Bioreactor proposal.

German Mills Settler's Park is not only a sanctuary for myself and my family but for the wildlife that continues to thrive in this peaceful setting. I would like all this negative attention to stop and leave nature to its own accord.

I have photographed German Mills Settler's Park and have had the pleasure of capturing moments in nature that don't repeat itself. I treasure every minute that I am down there because it makes me feel that I am up North in the peace and quiet. And when I meet another person walking their dog or strolling along I get to enjoy a bit of conversation and get to know my neighbours.

I have captured through photographs the beaver, deer, salmon Kingfisher, Cedar Waxwing, Cardinal, Mourning Dove, Ducks, Woodpecker, Fox, etc and all sorts of Wildflower and Bugs.

I have compiled a 30 minute DVD with all the photographs I have taken over the years and if you would like me to share it during the Council Meeting on June 26th as a background viewing it would be my pleasure. Just let me know.

Sincerely,
Edith Kangas

(50)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Supporting the Motion to STOP the Aerobic Bioreactor proposal

From: EDITH KANGAS
Sent: June 25, 2012 1:51 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; info@germanmills.org; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Supporting the Motion to STOP the Aerobic Bioreactor proposal

June 25, 2012
Dear Councillors,
I support Councillor Howard Shore's motion to stop the Aerobic Bioreactor proposal. German Mills Settler's Park is not only a sanctuary for myself and my family but for the wildlife that continues to thrive in this peaceful setting. I would like all this negative attention to stop and leave nature to its own accord.
I have photographed German Mills Settler's Park and have had the pleasure of capturing moments in nature that don't repeat itself. I treasure every minute that I am down there because it makes me feel that I am up North in the peace and quiet. And when I meet another person walking their dog or strolling along I get to enjoy a bit of conversation and get to know my neighbours. I have captured through photographs the beaver, deer, salmon Kingfisher, Cedar Waxwing, Cardinal, Mourning Dove, Ducks, Woodpecker, Fox, etc and all sorts of Wildflower and Bugs.

I cannot stress enough that the wildlife does not need to be disturbed. So I am 100% behind Councillor Howard Shore's motion to stop the Aerobic Bioreactor proposal and to not bring this matter up again in the future.

Sincerely,
Edith Kangas

(51)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Regarding German Mills Settlers Park - from a Markham resident

From: Shore, Howard
Sent: June-25-12 12:04 PM
To: Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Fw: Regarding German Mills Settlers Park - from a Markham resident
Hi Kimberley,
Please include this amongst the correspondence on the Sabiston Motion tomorrow evening.
Thank you,
Howard

Howard I. Shore
Councillor, Markham-Thornhill Ward 2
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3
www.howardshore.ca
Tel: 905-479-7756 Fax: 905-479-7763

From: Sean Zhuang
Sent: Monday, June 25, 2012 12:03 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Subject: Regarding German Mills Settlers Park - from a Markham resident

Dear Councillors,

I am one of the residents that are using the German Mills Settlers Park on a daily basis, and as many of other residents, I was shocked to hear that project to install aerobic and anaerobic bioreactors came back again. Not sure how it was initiated, but as our beloved councillors, the consideration should be only based on the benefits of residents of surrounding the park and all residents of Markham.

We are all aware of that the project will not make economic sense for Markham, and technology wise it is a matured technology and will not make Markham as leaders in the area. And we, not only residents surrounding the park, but many residents in Markham, have been making our voices loud and clear to object any kind of bioreactors to be installed in the park. I have never seen so many residents in our neighborhood so enthusiastically involved in any other kinds issues before. It is clear to me it is such a big concern to so many residents.

Not sure any of you, our councillors, are using the park, but bioreactors or any kind of speedy technology will for sure create environmental concerns. Even as of now, every day in the morning when I am jogging near the ventilation well in the middle of the park, if it is not a windy day, the stinky air will make me hard to breathe; when I talked with residents near by the ventilation house, all of them had experienced the stinky smell before; cannot image what would it be like if bioreactors are installed.

It is clear to me this is not an issue of Markham pioneering in land fill processing technology, it is an issue about the people, not only people surrounding the park, but all the people in Markham. As our councillors please listen to the voices of the residents you are representing of, and consider the project only for the benefits of Markham and the people living in Markham, not for any other parties that would benefit from tax payer's money from the project.

We, residents surrounding the park and residents of Markham, appreciate and applause for the motion from dear councillor, Howard Shore, to designate this area as a Meadow and Natural Habitat, and appeal all our councillors, for the benefits of the people and Markham, to support his motion in the coming meeting on Jun 26.

Thank you for your support,

Sean Zhuang
Resident of Cottonwood CRT, Markham

(5)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Making history together!

From: Sean Zhuang
Sent: June 26, 2012 2:18 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Subject: Making history together!

Dear Councillors,

As you now all are aware of the German Mills Settlers Park issue, that so many residents are organized together and raising their voice and concerns with the anaerobic bioreactors project. I have send you all an email yesterday and thanks for many of you that will support councillor Howard Shore's motion to designate this area as a Meadow and Natural Habitat, all of us who fighting for the park are truly appreciated the support.

The issue is not just a local issue anymore. It is now on news, tv, on twitter, youtube and blogs. People from not only surrounding area, Markham, but from all the world are watching, how the city will act, are we listening to the voice of the residents, what is our position in protecting the environment. We, the people, city and all the councillors, we are making the history here and now.

Me, my children and many people first visited the German Mills Settlers Park, we are surprised, and I still remember vividly my kids had their faces light up and their eyes wide opened. It is such a beautiful place that we never expected in the middle of the city. When our children or grand children visit the park in the future, when their faces light up and when eyes wide open, when they are amazed as we did, we, the people, the councillors, all of us made this possible today, we can proudly tell them, that we make it possible.

I suggest that if German Mills Settlers Park become a designated Meadow and Natural Habitat, we should have a opening ceremony to record the history, and something record and show future generation who make all this possible.

Thanks again for all the councillors that support the motion, and for those are not yet decided to reconsider your choices, to make our children, the future generation, feel proud that we had made the right decision.

Sean Zhuang
Resident of Cottonwood CRT, Markham

52

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: no to bioreactor proposal

From: Sylvia Gordner
Sent: June 25, 2012 12:44 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Subject: no to bioreactor proposal

I support the motion to protect our green space…no to the bioreactor proposal.

Sylvia Gordner

53

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Motion re: Settlers Park Meadow & Natural Habitat
Attachments: GERMAN MILLS PARK.docx

From: Peter Young
Sent: June 25, 2012 2:42 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Cc: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; info@germanmills.org; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Subject: Motion re: Settlers Park Meadow & Natural Habitat

I am the original owner (1978) at 25 Pine Knoll Gate. Our personal story and why the health implications are important to us is attached.

- We totally SUPPORT Councillor Shore's Motion
- Take action June 26th and don't defer this decision
- We are completely against the aerobic proposal.
- Stop this unnecessary debate & public meetings that started 6 years ago
- Continue with the current anaerobic/conventional technology
- We support additional methane monitoring measures added to the current system that the Town may want to introduce to ensure increased safety.
- We ask for your support to protect our greenspace and to not allow this unique natural and wildlife habitat to be sacrificed for the sake of an aerobic bioreactor **experiment.**

Let Nature do naturally what Nature does best! Government doesn't need to be unnecessarily involved!

Regards,

PETER YOUNG & JUANITA CHARLETON

GERMAN MILLS PARK

My name is Peter Young. I am the only original resident of Pine Knoll Gate at number 25 having moved into my home in June 1978.

Part of the appeal of moving into this neighbourhood was living in a house that backed on to a greenbelt which extended from my eastern property line to what would become German Mills Park. I remember looking out a bedroom window and seeing the methane plume which burned brightly, high into the night sky for years until the Cottonwood development ate away at that greenbelt.

Over the past 30 years or so, as a neighbourhood, we have been plagued by the noxious fumes that have polluted our environment from the Canac Kitchen manufacturing plant. Fortunately, Canac Kitchens has recently moved away.

We are bounded to the north and east by major highways ... the 407 & 404. These arteries spew tons of noxious chemicals into our air every day. The benefit of a greenbelt has long been proven to help mitigate the impact of the poisonous air that we breathe.

I'm sure that many tonight will speak to the negative impact of this project & the expected foul odors being emitted from German Mills Park and the impact that this will have on our property values, not to mention the loss of their use and enjoyment of this greenbelt, which I heartily endorse. However, my appeal in not moving forward with this initiative is based on the following:

- On a very personal level, my wife has been completely housebound for almost 12 years. In addition to her many health challenges, she has extreme chemical sensitivities often made worse by the outside air. She does not have the luxury of leaving the house if there are toxicity problems.
- Preserving the greenbelt as an irreplaceable asset in our community to provide quality in the air we breathe so that my wife can open the windows and enjoy the outdoors as opposed to waiting for the wind to change direction before going out ... when she is hopefully able to do so.
- With the further major expansion proposal of the Shops on Steeles site at Don Mills & Steeles, population & traffic density is only going to increase putting a further premium on the need for the positive air quality effects of a greenbelt.
- There is no definitive need to touch the German Mills Park land. Nature is doing naturally what nature does best. It's only when man gets involved do we compromise our quality of life as this proposal is designed to do.
- If the people spearheading this project lived in our homes and backed onto the area in question, would they be so aggressive in their approach? I think not.
- Much of what we do today ... recycling, hybrid cars, solar & wind powered energy etc. ... is all about leaving a better tomorrow for future generations. Let's let Mother Nature do her job and not sacrifice our health and our environment for this proposal.

Thank you for considering my perspective of this issue.

Peter Young

May 30, 2012

54

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Aerobic land fill - no benefit to the community

From: Mark Shnier
Sent: June 25, 2012 6:03 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Subject: Aerobic land fill - no benefit to the community

Dear Mayor and Councillors

I will be at council chambers tomorrow, but just as short note to say that this misguided science experiment in our backyard should be stopped.

There is no benefit to our community, but there is risk to the Don river tributary which runs though the green space just down from our house. The current landfill is sitting quietly and need not be disturbed with a plan to accelerate decomposition and add water when the land fill is old and unlined and not designed to modern standards for leachate collection.

I'm sure there are many land fill sites in Northern Ontario, away from residential areas and creeks where this experiment could be conducted.

Please let the glory of that potential break though go to another jurisdiction. We don't need to be the Guinna pigs here.

Mark Shnier

(55)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW:

From: Linda Scavuzzo
Sent: June 25, 2012 7:33 PM
To: Shore, Howard
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject:

With the following I would like to show my support to Councillor Shore's motion to protect our greenspace and say a final NO to the aerobic bioreactor proposal for the former Sabiston landfill and that the subject lands be formally brought into the Markham park system and designated as the "German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat" for all to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Linda Scavuzzo

56

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Pilot project

From: k.hochman
Sent: June 25, 2012 8:11 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Subject: Pilot project

We are against the aerobic bioreactor pilot project proposal by the Town of Markham and support Councilor Howard Shore's motion to declare the project no longer under consideration by the Town and designate the green space as the "German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat" as recognition of the unique and special character of this site.

Kathy, Ted, Mimi & Toby

(57)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: German Mills Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

From: Livia Burghardt
Sent: June 26, 2012 1:18 AM
To: Clerks Public
Subject: Fw: German Mills Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

Dear Mayor and Honorable Councillors,

I moved to Cottonwood Court because I fell in love with the surroundings at first sight. I used to have to drive to get to German Mills Settlers Park but now I can just walk out my back door and I am in another world – a magical oasis that scarcely seems like part of the city. As I walk, I never cease to be astonished by the teeming variety of life around me – fragrant meadow flowers, dragonflies, butterflies of every description, red-winged blackbirds, goldfinches, cardinals, red-headed woodpeckers and many other birds I had never seen before and don't even know the names of, some of which I understand are endangered. There is a place by the river where I sit when I need peace of mind. In the fall I was amazed to see silvery salmon swimming upstream. Another day in the middle of winter I saw a beaver chewing on a branch. After the spring rains, I noticed deer tracks in the mud. Not long ago, a red fox loped across the trail in front of me and into the bush. Just last week, on the same day, a baby rabbit scampered across the path and a groundhog scrambled up the retaining wall in alarm when it saw me. At night I am privileged to eavesdrop on the conversations of the coyotes. I never knew how many different sounds they can make!

I meet people in the park too – people from all walks of life– bird-watchers and butterfly enthusiasts, joggers and bikers, young couples, parents and grandparents with their children, an elderly Chinese gentleman who taught me about medicinal plants and an 87 year old Italian woman named Archangela who collects wild edibles.

I can't imagine my life without German Mills. I walk there daily. It restores my sanity, feeds my soul and is helping me to regain my fitness. When I return home and sit on my deck, the only sound I hear is the wind in the trees and the trilling of songbirds. The bioreactor project would change all that. It would be an unimaginable loss for me and for the many others who cherish this park. As bad as it would be for me, it would be even worse for the non-human residents of this area who have no say in their future. I would lose my lifestyle but they would lose their very lives.

Please take the time to consider what it would mean if you vote in favour of the bioreactor project: heavy machinery, dozens of wells, the noise of pumps day and night, toxins leeching into our watershed, a depleted river, the unnatural warming of the land, standing pools, mosquitoes, fumes and fences... For what? Most of the methane dissipated during the first twelve years after the landfill was closed. The amounts released today are negligible. Nature has reclaimed the land in German Mills. Why spend thousands of dollars to fix a problem that doesn't exist? Why not let nature continue to do the job it is doing so well – healing the scars of human intervention? Such green space in the midst of the city is a precious treasure beyond price. Isn't it worth preserving this rare habitat for our children's children?

I am begging you to vote 'no' to the aerobic bioreactor proposal.

I am begging you to vote 'yes' to life.

Thank you from your constituent...

Livia Burghardt

58

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

From: Livia Burghardt
Sent: June 26, 2012 1:21 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Clerks Public
Subject: Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

Dear Mayor and Honourable Councillors,

I was horrified to learn the lush German Mills Settler's Park, with its rich flora and fauna, is endangered by the aerobic bioreactor project. I shudder to think of all the wildlife and people who will be negatively affected by this noxious project. This area is a wonderful haven for everybody. Where else, in the middle of the city, can you see beavers and foxes on your walks? Where else can you watch the salmon swimming upstream to spawn? Where else can you fall asleep to the sound of coyotes at night? Please find it in your heart to vote 'no' to the aerobic bioreactor proposal.

Christa Burghardt

(59)

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Motion by Councillor Howard Shore - Aerobic Project

From: Kuthur Kalayanam
Sent: June 26, 2012 10:46 AM
To: Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Hamilton, Don; Scarpitti, Frank; Landon, Gord; Kanapathi, Logan; Jones, Jim; Heath, Jack; Li, Joe
Cc: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Info Gemanmills
Subject: Motion by Councillor Howard Shore - Aerobic Project

Dear Town of Markham Council Members

I am a resident of 15 Pine Knoll Gate. Our home backs on to the Meadow / Green space / the Sabiston Site. We support the motion that was put forward by Councillor Shore on June 12th with respect to preserving the green space.

We have been living at 15 Pine Knoll Gate since 1987. Over the 25 years we have observed how this landscape has been transformed by Mother Nature from a grassy field into a beautiful meadow/Green Space that has nourished and sustained several species of plants, animals and birds (some of them rare). I understand that this green space is probably one of only two such unique natural pieces of meadow land in the GTA. It is used by untold numbers of people on a daily basis for walking, bicycling etc., not just from the houses that back on to the site but by the surrounding area residents.

Markham's own Greenprint Sustainability Plan states: ***"We value and restore the natural environment and protect biodiversity, natural capital and ecosystem services."*** There is a great opportunity now for the Mayor and the Councillors of Markham to back-up these words with positive action by formally declaring that the Aerobic Bioreactor Technology is no longer under consideration for the Sabiston Site. This, in my opinion, is the right thing to do to put Markham on the map as a champion of the environment.
I hope that when Councillor Shore's motion comes up before Council on the 26th it can be passed and not deferred to another date for more study.

Thank you.

K.M. Kalyanam

60

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Motion by Councillor Howard Shore - Aerobic Project

From: Padmini Kalyanam
Sent: June 26, 2012 11:00 AM
To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan
Cc: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Subject: Motion by Councillor Howard Shore - Aerobic Project

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I hope that when Councillor Shore's motion comes up before Council on the 26th it can be passed and not deferred to another date for more study.

Thank you.

Padmini Kalyanam

61

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Support Councilor Shore Motion to Save Settlers Park

From: A J
Sent: June 26, 2012 11:26 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Cc: info@germanmills.org
Subject: Support Councilor Shore Motion to Save Settlers Park

June 26, 2012

Dear Mayor Scarpitti, Deputy Mayor, and Honorable Councilors,

I fully support and endorse the Motion tabled by Councilor Shore on June 12th and ask that you vote in favour of the Motion at your Council meeting on June 26th. I also thank and applaud Councilor Shore's efforts in tabling this Motion on behalf of his concerned constituents.

For the sake of our community – please do not defer this decision to another date or refer the issue back to Town of Markham staff, as this will only cause the concerned residents of areas surrounding Settlers Park more worry and grief.

Sincerely,

Athir Jamil

62

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Support of Councillor Shore's Motion to Reject Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

From: Linda Tait
Sent: June 26, 2012 11:34 AM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public
Subject: Support of Councillor Shore's Motion to Reject Aerobic Bioreactor Proposal

I have recently signed a petition to demonstrate my support of rejecting the aerobic bioreactor experiment and designating Settlers Park as a meadow and natural habitat.

This experiment has been appallingly handled by those in the Town who support it. No one is denying the intuitive merit of accelerating landfill decomposition. But embracing an experiment at the prompting of well paid consultants for no reason other than to claim to be an "environmental leader" doesn't in fact demonstrate environmental leadership. It demonstrates political opportunism.

Moreover, the Town seems singularly unaware of the importance of the park in terms of wildlife, notably bird, diversity. This lack of awareness has fostered the belief among many of my neighbours that, in fact, the experiment is merely the first step in eliminating the natural environment, and creating some completely unnecessary baseball diamond type campus or, even worse, leasing the lands to the local golf club for the exclusive use and access of its members.

I will be attending the Council Meeting tonight to add my support to Councillor Shore's Motion.

Sincerely,

Linda Tait

63

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: German Mills Settlers Park

From: Marianne Vinton
Sent: June 26, 2012 12:54 PM
To: Shore, Howard; Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Burke, Valerie; Li, Joe; Chiu, Alex; Ho, Alan; Jones, Jim; Landon, Gord; Hamilton, Don; Moretti, Carolina; Campbell, Colin; Kanapathi, Logan; Wong, Heidi
Cc: Marianne Vinton
Subject: German Mills Settlers Park

I am one of the residents that are using the German Mills Settlers Park on a daily basis, and as many of other residents, I was shocked to hear that project to install aerobic and anaerobic bioreactors came back again. Not sure how it was initiated, but as our beloved councillors, the consideration should be only based on the benefits of residents of surrounding the park and all residents of Markham.

We are all aware of that the project will not make economic sense for Markham, and technology wise it is a matured technology and will not make Markham as leaders in the area. And we, not only residents surrounding the park, but many residents in Markham, have been making our voices loud and clear to object any kind of bioreactors to be installed in the park. I have never seen so many residents in our neighborhood so enthusiastically involved in any other kinds issues before. It is clear to me it is such a big concern to so many residents.

Not sure any of you, our councillors, are using the park, but bioreactors or any kind of speedy technology will for sure create environmental concerns. Even as of now, every day in the morning when I am jogging near the ventilation well in the middle of the park, if it is not a windy day, the stinky air will make me hard to breathe; when I talked with residents near by the ventilation house, all of them had experienced the stinky smell before; cannot image what would it be like if bioreactors are installed.

Marianne Vinton

64

Written Submission to Markham Town Council Meeting June 26, 2012

To: Markham Council

From: Theresa Moore, Toronto Field Naturalists (TFN) volunteer outing leader & local resident

Bob Kortright, TFN President

Re: Proposal from Councillor Howard Shore re: former Sabiston Site

Date: June 20, 2012

We enthusiastically support the proposal to formally recognize and preserve the former Sabiston site as a unique natural habitat, under the Markham Parks system. This proposal is very much in keeping with our 2006 and 2012 reports which highlighted the value of this rare meadow habitat.

With respect to the proposal to 'consider a leachate collection system to protect the local creek', our previous comments remain pertinent i.e. "We remain committed to a 'leachate collection only' project as one option to reduce creek pollution and preserve habitat, provided this was installed and operated in a manner than minimized disruption to existing (meadow) wildlife and vegetation...we are still awaiting details on the impact/disruption that an independent collection system would entail."

We look forward to continued collaboration with the Town of Markham and are available for consultation on the recommendations made in our earlier reports on a Master Plan for the Park and former Sabiston site.