



**MINUTES**  
**MARKHAM SUB-COMMITTEE**  
March 31, 2015, 9:00 am  
York Room

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**Committee Members**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Councillor Karen Rea  
Councillor Colin Campbell  
Councillor Amanda Collucci

**Staff**

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services  
Sally Campbell, Manager, East District  
Stephen Chait, Director, Economic Development  
Lilli Duoba, Manager, Natural Heritage  
Biju Karumanchery, Acting Director, Planning & Urban Design  
Graham Seaman, Senior Manager, Sustainability Office  
Marg Wouters, Senior Manager, Policy & Research  
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

**Guests**

Pamela Veinotte, Rouge National Urban Park  
Richard Scott, Parks Canada  
Niomie Massey, Cornell Rouge Development Corp.  
Richard Hahn, Lindvest Properties

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The Markham Sub-Committee convened at 9:05 am with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath in the Chair.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST** - None Declared

**1. CORNELL CENTRE SECONDARY PLAN / ROUGE PARK**

At the Development Services Committee meeting on February 17, 2015, regarding the Cornell Centre Secondary Plan, the Committee directed that options for gateway locations and commercial opportunities in Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP), east of Donald Cousens Parkway, be referred to a Markham Sub-committee meeting with staff and landowners.

The Chair gave a brief overview of the topic for discussion, and the participants were introduced.

Marg Wouters gave a presentation to provide background information, and described the subject lands with respect to the draft Cornell Secondary Plan. Potential uses in Cornell Centre and Rouge Park were discussed, particularly commercial/institutional uses, and heritage buildings.

Pamela Veinotte, Rouge National Urban Park, confirmed that the federal government is aware of Markham's concern for heritage preservation and advised of intended uses for the heritage buildings, such as administrative offices.

Graham Seaman discussed his recent visit to Banff, Alberta, and described Banff's tourist attractions: a variety of attractions, shops, restaurants, hotels, and cultural venues. It was suggested that a cultural/welcome centre promoting heritage features, would create an impressive gateway for RNUP. Gateway locations and components were discussed at length.

Discussions included the following:

- Transfer of lands from the province is an important first step
- Secondary welcome areas are being considered
- The welcome areas do not have to be within the park
- No date has been set for opening the welcome centres. It will depend on the land transfers
- Secondary welcome centres may precede the primary centres due to time constraints
- Parks Canada is looking at the Locust Hill School area as a "node" or welcome area
- Parks Canada will promote the theme of research and innovation – cultural, agricultural preservation, and sustainability
- Banff business leases contain provisions for heritage protection and promotion
- A "Main Street" environment is being encouraged on Markham Road and on Bur Oak Avenue in Cornell
- There are no opportunities within the park for hotel use
- The Official Plan/Secondary Plan Business Park provisions could be expanded to include Park-related tourist uses - flexibility is needed for B&B establishments, restaurants, retail, stand-alone uses along the edges of the park, while ensuring that the policy does not permit regular shopping malls
- The Secondary Plan can identify a study area to defer specific policies until development is ready for the north-east corner of Highway 7 and Reesor Road
- Transit access from Highway 7 is a key element. Viva is proposing to extend the dedicated line out to Cornell, and a mobility hub is identified in Box Grove in the vicinity of Hwy 407
- With respect to recreational opportunities, a robust trail system is being planned, including cycling and horseback riding, and possible campgrounds in the north end
- A trail system could be incorporated into the green space
- Opportunities for recreational areas inside and outside of the park were discussed (Milne Park 2)
- Community uses such as a farmers market, etc., were suggested

Staff confirmed that servicing is available within the urban boundary. Richard Hahn and Niomie Massey provided updates on servicing with respect to Lindvest and Cornell Rouge developments, and discussed catalysts and challenges for development and service linkage opportunities.

Pamela Veinotte emphasised that from an architectural design aspect, Parks Canada wants to ensure that a heritage cultural feel is incorporated.

The next steps will be to develop appropriate Official Plan policies for private sector initiatives, and to work with the federal government on Park-related initiatives. The Committee confirmed that the Markham Sub-Committee will continue to lead the discussions on this project, with involvement of land owners and developers. Staff will report back to the Committee.

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Moved by: Councillor Colin Campbell

Seconded by: Councillor Amanda Collucci

That staff review the Official Plan Policies for Business Park and business uses, and report back to the Markham Sub-Committee.

CARRIED

### **Adjournment**

The Markham Sub-Committee adjourned at 10:30 am.