



NOTES
ROUGE PARK IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW TASK FORCE
ONTARIO ROOM, MARKHAM CIVIC CENTRE
August 24, 2012

ATTENDANCE:

<p>Members: Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, Chair</p> <p>Regrets: Councillor Colin Campbell Councillor Logan Kanapathi</p>	<p>Staff: Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services Mary Creighton, Director of Recreation Lilli Duoba, Senior Project Coordinator, Environmental and Rouge Park Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning Linda Irvine, Manager of Parks and Open Space Graham Seaman, Sustainability Office Lead Margaret Wouters, Manager, Policy & Research Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator</p>
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The Rouge Park Implementation Task Force convened at 1:40 p.m. **without quorum** with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath presiding as Chair.

1. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – None Declared

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 27, 2012 Rouge Park Implementation Review Task Force were deferred.

3. UPDATES

a) RNUP Land Holders Table meeting summary

Graham Seaman gave a summary of the RNUP Land Holders Table Meeting, advising of the people in attendance and the topics of discussion. An update was provided on the Transfer Agreement. A new Agreement has been received and reviewed by staff, and legal staff are working on several issues, including Payment in Lieu of Taxes and implications of the proposed legislation. The legislation strategy cannot be released until the Agreement is finalized; however,

some reassurances have been requested for the transitional committee's comfort. The City of Toronto is also working on several issues. Comments are due in September, and staff are considering how to collaborate with the other land holders to prepare a joint submission. Council approval is required for the Agreement.

It was noted that this is a 'due diligence' document, not a transfer document. The one Agreement will incorporate all the land owners. It was questioned how the Markham By-laws will fit into the legislative framework of the Park.

Another outstanding issue is the boundaries of the study area and whether Little Rouge, among other parcels, are included. The mapping process is ongoing. The next Land Owners meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2012, in Toronto.

The Chair advised that progress is being made, and encouraged a one-on-one meeting with Parks Canada to deal with Markham issues. There is an understanding that the lands will not be transferred until Markham is satisfied with the Agreement.

b) Recreation Concept

Linda Irvine provided topographical mapping for an approximate 500-acre parcel in Markham, and will be working on high-level concept plans for the September meeting. In addition to agricultural fields, there are also diverse land features, valleylands, and woodlots. The mapping will include hamlet boundaries as exclusions from the park. Archery, an outdoor theatre, and camping were mentioned as potential activities within the Park.

Discussions included Locust Hill as the village hub. Although there is currently no retail in the community, it was agreed that some retail/restaurant/welcome centre components would be beneficial.

c) Tompion

Staff reported that they will be meeting with the TTC and YRT next week to discuss the use of the Tompion property. Parks Canada representatives will have an opportunity to comment, but it should be under Markham's control.

4. HERITAGE

Regan Hutcheson gave a presentation on the Cultural Heritage resources within the Rouge National Urban Park. There are 88 individual properties owned by Transport Canada, TRCA, ORC/Infrastructure Ontario, and including three owned by Markham. Privately owned lands are not included. The Chair requested the heritage building locations be indicated on the map of the Park. The presentation included photographs and information on the significance, threats, and any planned actions.

The Committee discussed the following points:

- It is important that any buildings being moved remain within the Park boundaries
- Emphasize to Parks Canada that the buildings must be restored to their original historic condition, i.e. replace non-original vinyl windows and siding, and repair any deteriorated buildings
- Include Locust Hill School and Milnesville School on the list of properties for further discussion
- The locations of cemeteries are to be identified
- Artificial Ice was noted for Cedarena in the future
- Security measures/by-law enforcement requirements for properties once they are owned by Markham, will have to be considered
- Timeframe for south-east collector agreement, and inclusion of a flex clause to deal with the two heritage properties involved
- Water servicing issues, property clean-up, exterior restoration, still have to be resolved

5. CHAIR'S MEETING WITH MINISTER

The Chair provided a written summary of discussions with the Minister Responsible for Parks Canada, on July 28, 2012, and briefly reviewed the highlights:

- The Minister is not supportive of including Milne Park in the National Park, but did support the suggestion of including it in the Municipal Associated Parks system
- The Ministry favours the 99 year lease option; however, the Committee prefers to let the residents decide
- With respect to Heritage barns, it was suggested they be included in the 99 year lease and that the owners maintain them

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Other topics of discussion for future meetings include storm water management ponds and employment lands.

It was noted that Parks Canada will be compensating for the due diligence exercise, including the work of identifying and protecting the Heritage buildings. Markham's Heritage Department should be involved in any heritage building applications, and this should be included in the MOU. It is recommended that any heritage buildings have residents established within one year.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 31, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. in the Ontario Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The Rouge Park Implementation Task Force adjourned at 3:15 p.m.