



**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
MARKHAM SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT &  
CULTURAL CENTRE, SITE PLAN  
October 24, 2012  
7:00 p.m.  
Council Chamber**

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**Attendance**

Mayor Frank Scarpitti  
Deputy Mayor Jack Heath  
Regional Councillor Jim Jones  
Regional Councillor Gord Landon  
Regional Councillor Joe Li  
Councillor Valerie Burke  
Councillor Howard Shore  
Councillor Don Hamilton  
Councillor Carolina Moretti  
Councillor Colin Campbell  
Councillor Alan Ho  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Councillor Alex Chiu

Andy Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer  
Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services  
Trinela Cane, Commissioner of Corporate Services  
Alan Brown, Director of Engineering  
Dennis Flaherty, Director Communications and  
Community Relations  
Joel Lustig, Treasurer  
Sepideh Majdi, Senior Development Engineer  
Rino Mostacci, Director of Planning and Urban Design  
Don Taylor, Manager, Executive Operations  
Mark Visser, Senior Manager Financial Strategy &  
Investment  
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

The Public Information Meeting regarding the Site Plan Application for Markham Sports, Entertainment & Cultural Centre (MSECC) convened at 7:08 p.m. in the Council Chamber with Mayor Frank Scarpitti in the Chair.

**APPLICATION FOR SITE PLAN CONTROL APPROVAL  
GTA CENTRE L.P. ON BEHALF OF THE REMINGTON GROUP  
PROPOSED MARKHAM SPORTS, ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURAL CENTRE  
EAST SIDE OF TRIBUTARY 4, SOUTH OF ENTERPRISE BOULEVARD  
311 ENTERPRISE BOULEVARD, MARKHAM CENTRE, (SC 12 124727) (10.6)**

**1. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

Mayor Frank Scarpitti welcomed everyone and provided opening remarks regarding the Markham Sports, Entertainment & Cultural Centre. The Chair outlined the status of the proposal and the extensive public consultation involved.

Graeme Rouston, Chairman & CEO of GTA Sports and Entertainment, addressed the Committee and introduced his consulting team.

## **2. PRESENTATIONS**

Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services provided introductory remarks regarding the City's review of the Site Plan approval application and the approval process, noting that the Planning Act does not require public consultation for site plan applications, and that the City has included substantial consultation beyond normal requirements. Mr. Baird emphasised that this is a private site plan application on behalf of the land owner. The staff report and conditions are clear that the site plan approval is distinct from the funding model. Discussions are ongoing on the funding model, which will be the subject of separate reports and recommendations to Council. The site plan agreement will not be executed until any funding arrangements involving the City are approved by Council.

Rino Mostacci, Director of Planning and Urban Design delivered a PowerPoint presentation providing a brief overview of the Markham Centre Vision, Secondary Plan Strategies, and By-laws, and how the facility integrates into the Downtown Markham plan.

Sheldon Levitt of Quadrangle Architects gave a presentation outlining the Design Master Plan in Markham Centre and how the Markham Sports, Entertainment & Cultural Centre integrates within that plan. Mr. Levitt reviewed the evolution of the community over the past few years and the unique opportunity of the proposed arena to contribute to Downtown Markham, as well as to gain the transit and benefits of a high density community. The presentation included the transit hub, MSECC site, and the various components of Markham Centre.

Greg Alexander of BBB Architects presented architectural and sustainability feature highlights. Mr. Alexander stated that the MSECC will be a landmark destination point and an anchor for Downtown Markham.

Sharon Sterling of Genivar gave a presentation providing an overview of transportation and parking. Ms. Sterling advised that joint parking and other options for supplementary parking have been added, and discussed ramps from Highway 407; measures to manage queuing space; minimizing disruption to existing traffic; and strategic locations of parking lots. Parking strategies have been developed for alternative transit ridership scenarios and there are many opportunities to provide the required amount of parking.

The Chair provided a brief overview of non-site plan issues for the overall project structure regarding land ownership, total costs, funding, revenues, and private sector responsibilities.

## **3. DEPUTATIONS**

Joan Jenkyn spoke on accessibility issues, requesting York Region Mobility be accommodated and that specialized shuttle services be provided.

Robert Mok spoke in opposition to using tax money for the MSECC project, and noted previous attempts to obtain an NHL franchise.

Bert Verwey spoke in opposition to the MSECC project.

Marilyn Ginsberg, representing the Grandview Area Residents Association, spoke in opposition to the MSECC project with respect to using public funds.

Toinette Bezant, representing the Bayview Glen Residents Association and Ward One South Thornhill Inc. spoke of concerns for the financial framework, the additional infrastructure requirements, parking, the Markham Centre Community Improvement Plan, and environmental assessment requirements.

Evelin Ellison, representing the Ward One South Thornhill Inc., concurred with previous speakers.

Grace Sonada spoke in opposition to the MSECC project with respect to funding and Development Charges.

Elisabeth Tan expressed concern for the impact of the MSECC on the pedestrian-friendly intent of Markham Centre.

Mike Gannon spoke in opposition to the financial framework for the MSECC and the potential delegation of site plan issues to staff.

Ray Menzies quoted recent newspaper articles regarding the MSECC and suggested the private sector pay for the entire project.

Donna Bush spoke in opposition to the MSECC with respect to the funding framework and discussed the accuracy of information and due diligent research regarding the proponents.

Robert Eds, representing a group of residents in opposition to the MSECC, spoke about the site parking with respect to the land values, and suggested zoning, Official Plan, and Secondary Plan amendments were required.

Paul Fong spoke of concern for a potential increase in property taxes.

Peeter Vanker spoke in opposition to the full size of the MSECC proposal and suggested that a smaller facility would be more appropriate.

Joyce Ramer spoke in opposition to the MSECC and questioned the approval of the site plan in principle, and whether it would be in compliance with the Secondary Plan.

Karen Rea, representing the Markham Village City Ratepayers Association, discussed urban design principles and questioned if the Markham Centre Secondary Plan should be updated. Ms. Rea had several questions regarding the financial framework and other issues.

Bhupen Karia questioned the ownership of the site plan application, and spoke in opposition to the use of public money for the MSECC.

Ewan Mackenzie submitted a written statement, read by Karen Rea. The statement considered economic issues.

Genevieve Fong spoke in opposition to the MSECC with respect to green issues and the potential impacts on taxpayers.

Barbara Sampson spoke in opposition to the MSECC, preferring private ownership and questioned the rush timing.

Art Pozdnyakov, representing the Settlers Park Ratepayers Association, spoke in opposition to MSECC and suggested that more information is needed.

Shan Thayaparan spoke in opposition to the MSECC funding, suggesting it be privately owned.

Annette Cacorovski spoke in opposition to the MSECC funding, suggesting it be privately owned.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Public Information Meeting regarding the Markham Sports, Entertainment & Cultural Centre adjourned at 11:40 p.m.