



**MINUTES**  
***ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES COMMITTEE***

August 10, 2016

**12:30 PM**

**Canada Room**

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| <b>Members</b><br>Deputy Mayor Jack Heath<br>Regional Councillor Joe Li<br>Councillor Valerie Burke<br>Councillor Logan Kanapathi<br>Karl Lyew, MEAC Representative<br><br><b>Regrets</b><br>Councillor Karen Rea | <b>Staff</b><br>Peter Loukes, Director of Environmental Services<br>Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and<br>Environmental Management<br>Alanna Mackenzie, Environmental Programs<br>Administrator<br>Michael Dipasquale, Acting Supervisor Waste<br>Management Operations<br>Nory Takata, Parks Planner<br>Alida Tari, Council/Committee Coordinator |
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The Environmental Issues Committee, convened at 1:39 p.m. with Deputy Mayor Jack Heath as Chair.

**1. MARKHAM TREES FOR TOMORROW FUND: FUNDING REPORT 2016**

Nory Takata, Parks Planner addressed the Committee and summarized the details outlined in the report. Staff noted that they will be investigating other initiatives under the Trees for Tomorrow banner.

There was brief discussion regarding planting in the National Park.

The Committee suggested that LEAF provide electronic updates that Councillor can share with their constituents.

Moved by Councillor Karl Lyew  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report entitled "Markham Trees for Tomorrow Fund: Funding Report 2016," be received; and,

- 2) That the funding application for 10,000 Trees for the Rouge in the amount of \$19,000, for their 27th Annual Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project in the Southeast section of Milne Park be approved; and,
- 3) That the funding application for Friends of the Rouge Watershed in the amount of \$19,500 to support their 2016 Restoration Project proposal to restore more than 2 hectares of new forest cover by planting 3,500 trees and 1,000 shrubs at 3 sites in the Rouge Watershed be approved; and,
- 4) That the funding application for Evergreen in the amount of \$24,000, for their Watershed Champions: Community Greening Initiative, be approved; and,
- 5) That the funding application for LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) in the amount of \$16,700 to support LEAF's Backyard Tree Planting Program be approved; and,
- 6) That the total amount of \$79,200 be funded from the 2016 Markham Trees for Tomorrow Capital Project account #700-101-5399-16171; and further,
- 7) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

## **2. MARKHAM ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY FUND (MESF) FUNDING APPLICATION, SPRING 2016**

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management addressed the Committee and provided further details relative to the funding applications. Staff advised that the Unionville Public School for an outdoor classroom initiative has requested that their application be delayed to the Fall 2016. Staff noted that Re-Play Ontario needs to provide more information, and are recommending that their application only be received.

There was discussion regarding Sustainable Neighbourhood Retrofit Action Plan (SNAP) and when the pilot program is anticipated to be completed.

The Committee discussed the importance of having the School Board confirming their support of the proposed application by CUTRIC.

Moved by Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Seconded by Councillor Valerie Burke

- 1) That the report entitled "Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund (MESF), Funding Application Spring 2016," be received; and,
- 2) That the funding application by Unionville Public School for an Outdoor Classroom initiative, for \$5,000, be approved; and,
- 3) That the funding application by the Markham Sustainability Office for the Glencrest Park Revitalization project, for \$10,000, be approved; and,
- 4) The funding application by Re-Play Ontario for a Sports Equipment Reuse Program, for \$10,000, be **received**; and,
- 5) That the funding application by Canadian Urban Transit Research & Innovation Consortium (CUTRIC) for an Electric School Bus Feasibility Study, for \$10,000, not be approved due to concerns with the efficiency and effectiveness of the study, including technology concerns and lack of School Board participation; and,
- 6) That the funds totaling **\$15,000** be provided from the 2016 Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund (MESF), account #87 2800168; and further,
- 7) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Carried

### **3. WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

Peter Loukes, Director of Environmental Issues delivered a PowerPoint presentation providing an update regarding the clear bag program.

The Committee discussed the following regarding Markham's Clear Bag Program:

- The reduction figures do not include multi-residential buildings
- Excellent benefits to the municipality with essentially zero cost
- The importance of having a media release to inform residents for an excellent program
- Great tangible results
- Food waste - consider including with future educational materials the importance of not wasting food

Claudia Marsales, Senior Manager, Waste and Environmental Management delivered a PowerPoint presentation providing an update on Markham's Textile Program.

The Committee discussed the following relative to Markham's Textile Program:

- Ensuring SMART Bins are placed in suitable locations
- Unionville - consider replacing the Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy (OFCP) multiple textile bins with a Markham SMART Bin
- Partnership between Canadian Diabetes Association and City of Markham for providing textile bins in multi-residential buildings
- Textile bins - obtain tonnage figures of what is being collected in multi-residential buildings and at all City of Markham locations
- Installing a Textile Bin at the Civic Centre - should it be located inside the building or in the parking lot similar to the Community Centre locations
- How to evaluate future potential textile partners to ensure they are reputable businesses

The Committee was in support of holding the Textile Launch during the week of October 17, 2016 at the City of Markham Civic Centre.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

It was suggested that a Waste Diversion Subcommittee meeting be scheduled in later September.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The Environmental Issues Committee adjourned at 3:05 p.m.