



Report to: General Committee

Date of Meeting: June 12, 2006

SUBJECT: Special Assistance Grant of \$100,000 – Bob Hunter Memorial Park
PREPARED BY: Barb Cribbett, Treasurer

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the \$100,000 Special Assistance Grant received from the Province of Ontario, Ministry of Municipal Affairs on March 29, 2006 be released to the TRCA (Toronto and Region Conservation Authority) for the Rouge Park Alliance, to be applied to the new Bob Hunter Memorial Park north of Steeles Avenue and east of the 9th Line in the Town of Markham.

AND THAT the TRCA and the Rouge Alliance work closely with the Town of Markham in the preparation of Park Management, Park Signage and Ecological Restoration Plans for the Bob Hunter Memorial Park

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council's approval to release the Special Assistance Grant of \$100,000 received from the Province of Ontario to the Rouge Park Alliance.

BACKGROUND:

The Rouge Park Alliance forwarded a letter (attached) to the Honourable John Gerretsen on February 27, 2006, thanking the Provincial Government for setting aside an area in the Rouge River watershed for the new Bob Hunter Memorial Park. In addition, the Rouge Park Alliance requested \$100,000 funding as follows:

- Bob Hunter Memorial Park Management Plan \$40,000
- Bob Hunter Memorial Park Signage \$15,000
- Bob Hunter Memorial Park Ecological Restoration \$45,000

In the March 1, 2006 letter from Mr. Gord Weeden (Chair of the Rouge Park Alliance), addressed to the Treasurer, Mr. Weeden directed that the proceeds from the Provincial grant, when it is received, be forwarded to the TRCA. As per Mr. Weeden's letter, the TRCA provide accounting services for revenues and expenditures for the Rouge Park Alliance.

On March 29, 2006, The Town of Markham received a Special Assistance Grant of \$100,000 from the Minister of Municipal Affairs, in support of the Bob Hunter Memorial Park (letter attached). The letter indicates that the one time grant is being provided to the

Town of Markham, "which will in turn engage the Rouge Park Alliance, a leading stakeholder in the project, to coordinate a Park Management Plan."

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

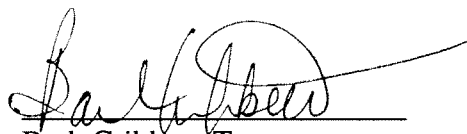
Mr. Weeden contacted the Treasurer's office to request the release of the funds, as work on this project is starting. As the cheque from the Province of Ontario was made out to the Town of Markham, it is necessary to obtain Council's approval to release this un-budgeted grant to the TRCA for the Rouge Park Alliance.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The distribution of the \$100,000 has no impact on the Town's budget, as this is an un-budgeted item (neither grant revenue nor expenses for Bob Hunter Park included in the Town 2006 budget).

RECOMMENDED

BY:


Barb Cribbett, Treasurer


Andy Taylor, Commissioner
of Corporate Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Feb. 27, 2006 Letter from Rouge Park to Minister Gerritson

March 1, 2006 Letter from Rouge Park Alliance

March 29th Letter from Province of Ontario – Minister Gerritson