



Report to: General Committee

Date Report Authored: August 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Participation House – landscaping project
PREPARED BY: Don Taylor, CAO's Office - 5972

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) THAT Council agree to pay \$36,511.00 to Participation House, Markham, which represents one-third of the cost of a completed landscaping project at Participation House Markham.
- 2) AND THAT Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Not required.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to provide funding in the amount of \$36,511.00 to Participation House, to cover one-third of the cost of a completed landscaping project at Participation House Markham.

BACKGROUND:

Participation House, Markham opened in 1972 and is the registered business name of the Cerebral Palsy Parent Council of Toronto. Participation House Markham provides services, and supports over 100 adults with physical and developmental disabilities.

The largest of a number of Participation House, the Markham facility is located at 9 Butternut Lane, at the south-east corner of Church Street and 9th Line. Its immediate neighbor to the east is Markham-Stouffville Hospital.

York Region Council authorized the widening and reconstruction of 9th line on July 6, 2000.

At the request of Participation House, Markham, a meeting was convened on February 1, 2006 to discuss noise and visual issues associated with the 9th Line widening. At that meeting a consensus was reached that new berms, trees and shrubs adjacent to 9th Line on the Participation House property would help mitigate these issues. In order to minimize the cost of the landscaping to any individual stakeholder (Participation House, the Region, and Markham), the idea of a three way partnership was put forward.

A committee formed to oversee the landscaping project met on three occasions from October, 2007 to June, 2009. At the final committee meeting on June 19, 2009, Participation House staff stated their expectation that each party (Participation House,

Region and Markham) would pay 1/3 of the total cost of the landscaping project. Markham staff noted that Markham Council approval would be required for its contribution.

The landscaping project was completed in 2010 by Rutherford Contracting Ltd. at a cost of \$109,535.00, and was paid in full by Participation House. Participation House notes that it used donated funds for the project, and reimbursement by the Region and Markham would allow them to proceed with other needed capital projects.

The Region forwarded its 1/3 share (\$36,511.00) to Participation House in March, 2011.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Participation House, Markham staff is extremely pleased with the landscaping project. A copy of their letter to this effect is attached as Appendix A.

In order to contribute 1/3 of the \$109,535 total cost of the 9th Line landscaping project adjacent to 9th Line, which provided much needed noise and visual mitigation for Participation House residents, and toward which the Region has contributed 1/3 of the total cost, and Participation House has contributed 2/3 of the total cost, it is recommended that Markham reimburse Participation House for 1/3 of the total cost.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The funding source for the \$36,511.00 payment would be Project 1443 - Developers Agreements Landscaping.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The report aligns with the Diversity strategic area of focus.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Staff from Finance, and Planning & Urban design were consulted on this report.

RECOMMENDED BY:

29/08/2013

29/08/2013

X 

Donald Taylor
Manager, Executive Operations

X 

Trinela Cane
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

[Appendix A - Participation House Letter](#)