

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2012

Item 3, Report No. 11, of the Finance and Administration Committee, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on November 20, 2012.

3 REPORT ON WHETHER THE DEMAND FOR THE USE OF MAXEY PARK EXCEEDS THE CAPACITY OF THE PARK MAXEY PARK – COMMITTEE INFORMATION REQUEST – WARD 2

The Finance and Administration Committee recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Community Services, dated October 29, 2012:

Recommendation

1. That this report be received for information.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master Park Plan, Goal 2, Objective 2.2:

- To develop Vaughan as a City with maximum green space and an urban form that supports our expected population growth.

Economic Impact

Not Applicable.

Communications Plan

Not applicable.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to respond to the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee request that appropriate staff determine and report back on whether the demand for the use of this park exceeds the capacity of the park to adequately accommodate all of its activity spaces and that report include a map of the park.

Background - Analysis and Options

Council, at its meeting on September 25, 2012 adopted the following without amendment (Item 5, Report No. 8, of the Finance and Administration Committee):

That the construction of a minimum of 18 parking spaces at an estimated cost of approximately \$90,150.00, including construction contingency and 3% administration (Option B), be referred to a future Finance and Administration Committee meeting for approval as part of the 2013 budget process; and,

That appropriate staff determine and report back on whether the demand for the use of this park exceeds the capacity of the park to adequately accommodate all of its activity spaces and that the report include a map of the park; and,

That, if the additional parking spaces are approved, the abutting residents be informed in advance of the extension of the parking lot; and

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That the following report of the Commissioner of Community Services, dated October 29, 2012, be received.

Parks Development staff has reviewed Maxey Park, including the existing recreational facilities within the park and all permitted uses allowed for this park site in order to determine whether the demand for the uses within the park exceeds the capacity of the park. It had been generally noted that the park site is well used by the surrounding community and the two existing bocce clubs within the local area. The park is located within a well-established and mature neighbourhood and is accessible by pedestrian pathways and by automobile, via Willis Road. Throughout the various years, Maxey Park has gone through a series of renovations and improvements in order to keep up with the basic recreational needs of the surrounding community. The park site is approximately 4.38 ha in size and has heavily treed areas located along the perimeter of the park that accounts for approximately 58% of the park lands. The park lands that are relatively accessible for use and that house the existing facilities are approximately 1.10 Ha in area. The existing facilities within Maxey Park consist of the following: two (2) tennis courts; five (5) bocce courts; one picnic shelters; a public washroom structure; one (1) playground precinct; an open lawn area and two parking areas that can accommodate 27 parking spaces (see attached map, attachment "A").

The Maxey Park site has always been popular with a large segment of the local population and is typically used for its' bocce courts, tennis courts, picnic shelter, playground and is a meeting place for large family events and has accordingly received considerable use from both permitted and non permitted casual users. The number of residents seeking outdoor recreation opportunities within this community will vary throughout the year, but generally speaking the permitted use does not exceed the existing capacity for this park. The current permitting practices limit the number of persons that can permit the picnic shelter to 81, which is governed by the number of parking spaces that are currently available at this time. This value is determined by multiplying the available parking spaces by the estimated persons per vehicle (3.0 persons) based on the parking requirements for community building and all season sports buildings (27 parking spaces x 3.0 person per vehicle = 81 persons) as per the City's By-law 1-88 to regulate the use of land and the character, location and use of buildings and structures within the City of Vaughan. It should be noted that there it is also a possibility that currently a number of users may be parking on the neighbouring streets during prime times when the park is used by both permitted and casual users.

Based on the available Recreation permitting statistic from 2011 and 2012, it has been noted that not withstanding the casual users, the permitted activity is as follows: the bocce courts are permitted by the Ansley Grove Bocce Club, one day per week for approximately 11 weeks during the summer months and by the Maxey Valley Bocciofilla Club, one day a week for approximately 26 week throughout the year. The members of these groups typically drive to the park site and require the use of the existing parking areas. The picnic shelter had been permitted for approximately 29 events during each year in 2011 and 2012, which included 26 picnics and 3 bocce tournaments. The maximum capacity for permitting of the picnic shelter is based on the number of parking spaces currently available within the park and tables provided based on that capacity but with no consideration for the casual non permitted use that may be taking place at the same time. The remaining facilities within the park site are open and free for use by residents within the local community and are subject to the rules and regulations for use as per the noted signs. Currently, there are no set limits to park capacity and the general uses of parks are governed by the available recreational permits and all City By-Laws.

Based on the current conditions of the available parking spaces within the Maxey Park site, it had been noted that the parking areas can be improved by including the addition of line painting and general markers on the asphalt parking areas, in order to clearly indicate parking stalls as per the City's by-law recommendations for stall sizes, including the requirements for universal accessible

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(handicapped) parking spaces. The grassed area to the easterly direction of the north parking lot is relatively flat; is well separated from other park facilities and has good positive drainage. The spatial limitations of the existing easterly grassed area would allow the development of approximately 18 parking spaces, while maintaining a sizable open grassed area that could be used for passive recreational uses. The addition of the 18 parking spaces would greatly improve the use of this park and would not negatively impact the existing park facilities and activity spaces (See Attachment B).

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020 / Strategic Plan

In consideration of the strategic priorities related to Vaughan Vision 2020, the project will provide:

- **STRATEGIC GOAL:**
Service Excellence - Providing service excellence to citizens.
- **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES:**
Pursue Excellence in Service Delivery; and Enhance and Ensure Community Safety, Health and Wellness; and,
To deliver high quality services and to promote health and wellness through design and program.

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

The purpose of this report is to respond to the recommendation of the Finance and Administration Committee and advise that the demand for the use of this neighbourhood park does not exceed the permitted uses or the capacity of the existing facilities and activity spaces within the park. In addition, the proposed expansion of the existing northern parking lot would help to more adequately accommodate the additional visitors/ users of the facility beyond those currently accounted for at permitting events that travel to the park by automobile from beyond the immediate neighbourhood.

Attachments

1. Attachment "A" Site Plan of Maxey Park
2. Attachment "B" Parking Lot Layout Plan

Report prepared by:

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(A copy of the attachments referred to in the foregoing have been forwarded to each Member of Council and a copy thereof is also on file in the office of the City Clerk.)