

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

Item 40, Report No. 36, of the Committee the Whole, which was adopted, as amended, by the Council of the City of Vaughan on September 9, 2014, as follows:

By receiving Communication C32 from Mr. Elliott Silverstein, dated September 9, 2014.

40 AGOSTINO PARK – SOCCER FIELD DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION OPEN HOUSE WARD 4

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Planning, dated September 2, 2014, be approved;**
- 2) That the inclusion of this matter on a Public Committee or Council agenda with respect to increasing the Capital Budget is deemed sufficient notice pursuant to Section 2(1)(c) of By-Law 394-2002; and**
- 3) That the deputation of Mr. Kevin Hanit, Queensbridge Drive, Concord, be received.**

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning, in consultation with the Commissioner of Finance & City Treasurer and the Director of Parks Development, recommends:

1. THAT the summary of comments prepared from the community open house held on July 8, 2014 be received;
2. THAT the additional park improvement requests identified by the community be referred to the Parks Redevelopment Strategy to be undertaken by the Parks Development Department in 2015;
3. THAT the recently acquired lands for the expansion of Agostino Park be developed for soccer field purposes as shown in Attachment 1 with funding for implementation of the soccer field development to be submitted for consideration in the 2015 Capital Budget; and
4. THAT current approved capital funding for project PK-6385-14 totaling \$97,750.00, be used to implement accessibility improvements to existing park facilities based on the comments received at the public consultation open house.

Contribution to Sustainability

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council in the Green Directions Vaughan, Community Sustainability Environmental Master 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

There is no economic impact as a result of this report. Based on the input from the public consultation staff are recommending that the funding for the design and construction of the soccer field, parking lot and associated site works be submitted through the 2015 Capital Budget process.

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EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

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In addition, a funding and implementation strategy will need to be developed for major park redevelopment works requested by the community during the public consultation. For the interim, staff propose to conduct the necessary site works to improve existing park facilities using approved capital funding in project PK-6385-14 with a focus on ensuring that park facilities are accessible for park users and satisfy guidelines of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) for the design of public spaces standards.

Communications Plan

Additional opportunities for public consultation will occur as the phased expansion and development of Agostino Park moves forward.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the results of the public consultation held for soccer field development at Agostino Park.

Background - Analysis and Options

Parkland Acquisition for Expansion of Agostino Park

At the Committee of the Whole meeting held on May 11, 2011, Council approved (Item 4 Report No 26, Committee of the Whole) the acquisition of 2.1 ha. (5.06 Acres), described as block 189, Plan 65M-3365 from the York Catholic School Board for the purpose of expanding the existing Agostino Park.

Agostino Park is located in the Carrville Community within an area of the City identified for intensification. Acquisition of the surplus school lands was recommended based on the 2008 Active Together Master Plan (ATMP) which provided two (2) key action plans for Parkland Acquisition:

1. The City should ensure the acquisition of an adequate land base for the outdoor recreation facilities proposed in the Master Plan, particularly those requiring large land bases (such as soccer fields) and those required to serve new residential communities (before appropriate lands becomes unavailable).
2. Where shortfalls may occur in parkland acquisition through the development process, the City should employ a range of alternative parkland acquisition mechanisms to obtain the necessary amount of parkland.

Approved Capital Project for Agostino Park Expansion

In 2013 Parks Development staff identified a capital project for the development of a multi-use field (Rugby/Football) for the newly acquired lands that form part of Agostino Park. The development of a multi-use field was recommended as high priority in the ATMP to meet the demands of the sports field user groups. Council approved project PK-6385-14 as part of the 2014 Capital Budget. Upon initiation of the design phase of this project it was determined that development of a full sized multi-purpose field is not possible given site constraints (grading, existing services) and proximity to adjacent residential property. Additionally, development of a full sized field would not allow sufficient room for parking.

Design plans were prepared to include development of suitable area to accommodate a range of soccer field types and sizes. The overall area is proposed to be graded to accommodate one (1) senior soccer field measuring approximately 65.0m x 110.0m, which is needed by local soccer clubs to support their programs. A copy of the proposed plan is included as Attachment "A". The

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

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plan includes development of the soccer field, parking and landscape planting to better screen and buffer adjacent residential properties. Development of this soccer field will allow for decommissioning of the existing mini soccer field and temporary mini soccer field which will open these lands for other recreational uses as requested by the community.

Summary of Community Consultation

On July 8, 2014 a community open house was held at the North Thornhill Community Centre and was well attended by the general public. This meeting was advertised via City Web Page, letters mailed to local residents (250 metre radius from park site) and meeting information posted on a mobile sign positioned at Agostino Park. All in attendance at the meeting were provided a hard copy comment sheet and comments were also able to be submitted via email or online on the City's Web page.

At the community open house, attendees were given the opportunity to review the proposed concept boards and ask staff questions or provide comments directly to staff. The open house forum was facilitated by the Parks Development staff in consultation with Parks Operations and Development /Transportation Engineering staff.

Written comments were required to be submitted by July 22, 2014. A total of 45 residents (plus children) attended the meeting and 38 comments sheets had been received by the public. Written comments are summarized in Attachment 2. The full list of resident comments have been included in Attachment 3.

Staff have reviewed all comments that were received and provide the following summary:

1. There is general support for the development of the expanded park and an interest in the development of these new park facilities in a timely manner. The facility fit for soccer was generally well received; however, the public did request that additional improvements are required to the existing parklands in order to offer something for everyone, including a good mix of spaces for structured and unstructured activities.
2. Requests were received to add tennis courts, splash pads, an ice rink and a walking loop, among other park features. Residents expressed an interest to see a greater emphasis on unprogrammed and unstructured play opportunities as opposed to permitted soccer fields. There was an interest in reducing the amount of soccer fields within the existing park.
3. Several residents identified concerns over the location of the soccer field and potential impacts from lighting, noise, parking and traffic (Note: sports field lighting is not proposed for this location).
4. Requests were received to improve the existing park facilities, such as the playground equipment, playground safety surfacing, basketball court, walking paths and site furnishing (trash/recycling and benches), including accessibility improvements.
5. Several residents identified concerns with site security and safety issues associated with illegal activities (drug use) and undesirable behavior (using the park after hours). There were concerns that there is little to no patrol by staff or City enforcement staff.
6. A general discussion concerning park maintenance focused heavily on the need for proper park maintenance of the entire parklands (specifically the lands that had been newly acquired for the expansion).

In addition to the community open house meeting, staff have been in discussion with the various

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EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

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sports user groups to continue to explore opportunities to meet their needs for additional or improved facilities. The Vaughan Soccer Association (VSA) currently uses Agostino Park; however, use is limited to mini soccer only. The VSA identified that the provision of the senior soccer or 9v9 soccer field is highly desirable and necessary for their club to meet the requirements of the Long Term Player Development League.

Based on the summary of comments received and discussion with the Vaughan Soccer Association, the following is recommended:

1. Development of a senior soccer field, parking and associated landscape works as Phase 1 development to be submitted in the 2015 Capital Budget for consideration.
2. Development of funding and implementation strategy for the various park improvements to the existing park facilities, based on the comments received at the public consultation open house are to be referred to the parks redevelopment strategy.
3. Implementation of playground safety surfacing, improvements to basketball court, general pedestrian walkway improvements, site furnishings with a major focus to improve accessibility and safety standards for public spaces.
4. Ensure that the proposed parking lot (50 spots) and unlit senior soccer field development be located approximately 15 metres from the existing residential property lines.
5. Upon completion of the senior soccer field and parking lot works, the existing mini and temporary mini soccer fields will be decommissioned and these lands will be repurposed for other recreational uses.

In addition, the traffic concerns noted by residents have been reviewed with Development Transportation Engineering who confirm that a Traffic Impact Study is not required as the peak traffic soccer field use is not expected to conflict with peak hours for local traffic which normal occurs between 7:00am-9:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm. Development Transportation Engineering Department requires Traffic Impact Study to be conducted when the proposed site anticipates to generate more than 100 trips in the daily peak hour. This will not be the case for this facility development.

With respect to comments raised regarding safety concerns and illicit behavior, Parks Development staff have forwarded comments to By-Law & Compliance and Parks Operations for their review and consideration.

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 - 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 and at this time staff resources have been allocated and are approved.

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EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

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Regional Implications

Not Applicable.

Conclusion

The community open house for park expansion works of Agostino Park was well attended. Support for the proposed soccer field was generally well received, with a greater emphasis placed in providing additional park amenities such as tennis courts, splash pads, an ice rink and a walking loop, among other park features and improvements to the existing playground, basketball court, pedestrian pathways and site furnishings.

Staff recommend Phase 1 works to include the development of soccer field, parking and associated landscape works, which will require funding in the amount of \$510,000.00, administration fees and applicable taxes. These additional funds will be submitted through the 2015 Capital Budget for consideration through the budget process.

In addition, the current approved capital funding associated with PK-6385-14, is proposed to be used to implement the improvements to the existing park facilities, based on the comments received at the public consultation open house, including improvements to the playground precinct, basketball court, pedestrian walkway and site furnishings, to improve accessibility and safety in accordance with AODA standards and criteria for public spaces.

Attachments

1. Agostino Park Concept Plan
2. Community Open House Meeting Summary
3. Summary of Resident Comments

Report prepared by:

Jamie Bronsema, Director of Parks Development, Ext 8858
Martin Tavares, Acting Manager of Park Development and Construction, Ext. 8882
Stephen Tippett, Landscape Architect, Parks Development, Ext 8985

(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.)

From: Racco, Sandra
Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2014 10:31 AM
To: Council Items; Bellisario, Adelina
Cc: Abrams, Jeffrey
Subject: FW: Letter regarding Item 40 – Report No. 36 (Committee of the Whole); AND Item 1 – Report No. 9 (Finance Committee)

FYI – additional communication

Cindy Furfaro-Benning
Executive Assistant
Councillor Sandra Yeung Racco
Ward 4, Concord/Thornhill North
905-832-8585 ext. 8198
cindy.furfaro@vaughan.ca

C	32
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Council - September 9/14	

To subscribe to Councillor Racco's e-newsletter, please click [here](#).

Follow Councillor Racco on [Twitter](#).

Visit [Racco's Community Forum](#) on Facebook.

From: Elliott Silverstein [<mailto:esilverstein@rogers.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 09, 2014 10:25 AM

To: Bevilacqua, Maurizio; Rosati, Gino; Di Biase, Michael; Schulte, Deb; Iafrate, Marilyn; Carella, Tony; DeFrancesca, Rosanna; Racco, Sandra; Shefman, Alan

Subject: Letter regarding Item 40 – Report No. 36 (Committee of the Whole); AND Item 1 – Report No. 9 (Finance Committee)

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua and members of Council,

Re: **Item 40 – Report No. 36** of the Committee of the Whole; AND **Item 1 – Report No. 9** of the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee

In advance of the September 9 Council meeting, I'm writing to you regarding two items on the agenda – Item 40 from Committee of the Whole (Report 36) and Item 1 from Report 9 of the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee.

This letter is based on personal experiences and challenges I've seen related to gaining access to and seeing the expansion of sports facilities in the City. As a long-time resident in the Thornhill area, along with being a player and an executive member of Thornhill Slo Pitch, I have some comments about the direction being proposed in both reports.

For reference purposes, Thornhill Slo Pitch is a non-profit league that has operated for nearly four decades in both Vaughan and Markham. Each year, hundreds of local residents participate in the League at diamonds on both the Vaughan and Markham sides of Thornhill.

On many occasions, it has been mentioned to Council members and staff that seasonal access to adequate baseball diamonds in Vaughan has been deficient. Recognizing that youth rightfully have the priority to access,

the City has not upgraded its facilities to meet the current and growing demands of adult leagues that require “senior” fields with lighting and fencing. In fact, over the past few years we have seen diamonds lost (e.g. Thornhill Park), leaving leagues such as Thornhill Slo Pitch (one of several leagues in this situation) struggling to find the necessary space to operate annually, and getting just one diamond, one evening a week in Thornhill.

At both sport meetings and in budget discussions, it has been shared that in the Thornhill and Maple areas, there is demand for access to suitable fields, be it through new construction and/or retrofitting however we have yet to see much progress in this area.

I read with interest both the Finance, Administration and Audit Committee report regarding North Maple Park, and the plans for Agostino Park in the Committee of the Whole report. This letter focuses on both items as they are very much related.

Agostino Park

Through the report, it is clear that a new soccer field will be constructed on the park and adjacent lands. The remaining space could be a suitable location for a new junior or senior baseball diamond. Constructing a junior baseball facility would enable senior level diamonds that include lights and a fence to be reserved for adult leagues, while not impairing the number of fields needed for youth activities. While the City constructed the diamonds over the past decade at Concord-Thornhill Park, and remodeled Thornhill Park from two diamonds to one, some fields are exclusive use for hardball, leaving softball and slo-pitch leagues without access to fields in their local community.

As Council makes a final decision on these lands, it would be beneficial to instruct staff to explore other sports outside of soccer for construction purposes at this and other parks in the Concord-Thornhill-Maple area.

North Maple Park

It is my understanding that Council has been reviewing Phase 1 of North Maple Park, a phase that was to include one artificial turf soccer field. Then, at the request of an individual soccer club, funds were then reallocated to enable a second artificial turf soccer field as part of phase 1. There is already a depth of soccer fields, both existing and recently constructed, across Maple and Thornhill. It is also my understanding that there are presently two artificial turf soccer fields in the Maple and surrounding area, which begs the question – why more of the same?

In the spirit of equity, when it comes to access to sporting facilities, providing a disproportionate amount of funds to a narrow band of sporting options does not reflect the growing needs and desires of the greater community. We’ve seen a healthy investment in soccer fields across the city for many years. It’s reasonable to expect Council and City staff to prioritize other sports that have a strong, long-standing presence in the community, and invest both physical and monetary resources to ensure that there is a variety of options for residents, not just one.

As a life-long resident of the City, I am concerned with the artificial turf investment and hope that one or both of the plans before you today will be broadened to factor in the segment of the population that has no interest in soccer fields.

Sincerely,

Elliott Silverstein

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

AGOSTINO PARK – SOCCER FIELD DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION OPEN HOUSE WARD 4

Recommendation

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Attachments

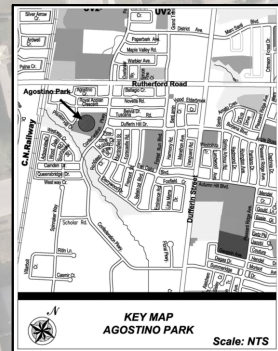
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Report prepared by:

Jamie Bronsema, Director of Parks Development, Ext 8858
Martin Tavares, Acting Manager of Park Development and Construction, Ext. 8882
Stephen Tippet, Landscape Architect, Parks Development, Ext 8985

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN MACKENZIE
Commissioner of Planning



LEGEND

- Proposed Pathway Connection
- Proposed Backstop Fence
- Proposed Players Benches with Garbage/ Recycling Bins
- Proposed Rock Seating Wall
- Proposed Trees
- Existing Trees



AGOSTINO PARK - CONCEPT PLAN

COMMUNITY INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

SOCCER FIELD EXPANSION

SCALE: N.T.S.
DATE: JULY 8, 2014
DRAWN BY: PARKS DEVELOPMENT



Community Open House Summary**PROJECT NAME: Agostino Park Soccer Facility Expansion****DATE: July 8, 2014****LOCATION: North Thornhill Community Centre****TIME: 7:00pm – 8:30pm****Present**

Martin Tavares, Construction Coordinator, Parks Development

Stephen Tippet, Landscape Architect, Parks Development

Musa Deo, Transportation Analyst, Development and Transportation Engineering

Samantha Lippa, Assistant to Ward 4 Councillor

Sonia Furtado, Assistant to Ward 4 Councillor

40 households attended over the course of the evening (Over 45 residents + children)

Purpose of Meeting

To provide residents with an opportunity to review the proposed Agostino Park senior soccer field expansion conceptual plan and design elements board and to receive input from the local community prior to finalizing the park design.

Residents were advised upon signing in of the Open House format, and that comments or questions could be asked at the Open House or via:

- a) Comment Sheet;
- b) Email;
- c) Telephone; or
- d) Fax

Comment Sheets and contact information were available at the sign in table and comments were to be submitted by July 22, 2014.

Thirty Eight (38) comments were received from residents following the July 8, 2014 Community Open House. See Attachment 'D' for formal comments.

Background Information

Agostino Park is located at 535 Confederation Parkway within the Carville Community. The existing park is 2.28 hectares and was originally constructed in 2002. Existing Park Components include:

- a) Senior and Junior playground (with sand safety surfacing);
- b) One full basketball court;
- c) One mini soccer field (one additional area for temporary mini soccer field);

- d) Site furniture (Benches, Garbage/ Recycling Units);
- e) Tree planting;
- f) Lit pedestrian walkway including connection to adjacent woodlot.

The proposed park expansion includes:

- a) One senior soccer field;
- b) Backstop fencing;
- c) Parking lot (50+ parking spots)
- d) Lit pedestrian walkway;
- e) Site furniture (Players Benches, Garbage/ Recycling Units);
- f) Tree planting and sodding.

Comments from the Residents:

The proposed Agostino Park expansion design was generally well received with some residents requesting alternative facilities to what was being proposed. The following is a synopsis of the written and verbal comments received along with a brief description of how these have or will be addressed:

Agostino Park Expansion

1. Planting Comments:

- a) Request to increase the amount of trees into the overall park design.

Response: Large healthy trees will remain and pruning will take place where necessary, additional coniferous and deciduous trees will be installed if funds are available following the tender process.

2. Soccer field Comments:

- a) Request to not exceed a time in the evening for games to be permitted;
- b) Request for rules to be set up when the soccer balls are hit or drop into backyards;
- c) Request for activities on the new park/ field need to be confined to playing soccer and any related tasks;
- d) Request to not light the proposed soccer field.
- e) Request to remove the existing mini and temporary soccer fields in order to reduce the number of soccer fields in the park;
- f) Request to build the senior soccer field including backstop fencing and parking lot in one phase.

Response: The proposed unlit senior soccer field is considered a public facility which will be allocated at particular times to permitted users for soccer games. The City of Vaughan does not permit unlit senior soccer fields after 9:00pm regardless of the season. The concept plans propose soccer field backstop fencing, which will help to reduce the number of balls kicked out of play. The permitting of sports fields include rental contract conditions and regulations that would cover the use of park facilities in case balls enter into neighbouring properties. The senior soccer field will not be lit which will limit the playing time for permitted users. Parks Development will review the possibility of single phase construction for the Agostino Park expansion works as well as the possibility to decommission the existing and temporary mini soccer fields.

3. Parking Lot Comments:

- a) Request to make the parking lot larger;
- b) Request to light the parking lot and have better enforcement of traffic law on Confederation Parkway.
- c) Request to have a complete traffic and motion study to be completed prior to moving forward.
- d) Concern that field users will park along Preston Hill.
- e) Request to install security cameras to avoid potential problems;
- f) Request to grade parking lot to drain water and melting snow;
- g) Request to have the new parking on list for regular parking patrols by enforcement;
- h) Request to install decorative fencing along park frontage at Confederation Parkway for safety reasons.

Response: Parking lot is anticipated to be constructed with 50+ spaces (2 accessible spots) and will be graded according to the overall grading plan of the site so not to pond water. The 50+ spaces (2 accessible spots) being proposed are considered to be a suitable amount of parking to accommodate a senior soccer field. There is also currently an estimated 12-15 layby parking spaces along the park frontage on Confederation Parkway that can also be used by all park users. It is anticipated that the amount of spaces being provided will alleviate on street parking along Preston Hill Crescent and Royal Appian Crescent. A traffic Impact Study (TIS) is not required as the peak traffic of soccer field is not expected to conflict with peak hours for local traffic, which normally occurs between 7:00am-9:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm during weekdays. Transportation Engineering Department typically requests a TIS be conducted if the proposed site is anticipated to generate more than 100 trips in the daily peak hour, which is not the case here. With the proposed location of the parking lot being along Confederation Parkway it is anticipated that on street presence as well as street lighting will deter any unwanted loitering. It is not anticipated that the parking lot will be lit or have security cameras installed, however, should

funding allow this will be taken into consideration. As with all City parks, regular enforcement will continue per the current By-law's. It is also not proposed that there will be decorative fencing along Confederation Parkway between the proposed parking lot and the existing sidewalk however, should funding allow this will be taken into consideration.

3. Existing Facilities comments:

- a) Request to remove sand and install an accessible safety surface within the junior and senior playgrounds;
- b) Request to improve the existing junior and senior playground facility;
- c) Request to make the existing junior and senior playgrounds larger.
- d) Request to update basketball court.

Response: Parks Development will review the available funding and determine if it is possible to update the existing facilities within Agostino Park which would include but not be limited to safety surfacing within the playground, improvements to basketball court, general pedestrian circulation improvements and site furnishings. The focus of the review on existing facilities will be on improvements required to meet the current standards of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

4. Additional Play Comments:

- a) Request to install Splash Pad;
- b) Request to install Skating Rink;
- c) Request to install Baseball Diamond;
- d) Request to install Volleyball Court;
- e) Request to install Tennis Court;
- f) Request to install a walking/ jogging track around proposed senior soccer field;
- g) Request to have the existing paved trail completed to the far end at the park to make a walking/ jogging track;
- h) Request to install fitness equipment within the overall park design.

Response: Amenities and components in the park concept plan are proposed in accordance with the approved Active Together Master Plan. Splash pads are typically included in District and Regional level parks reflective of the higher funding and service level required for those sites as they are significantly more expensive to install. There will not be adequate space to install a baseball diamond or tennis court or Volleyball court following the installation of the senior soccer field within the proposed concept expansion plans. The proposed senior soccer field expansion will also not accommodate a track surrounding the perimeter of the field as space is limited by set-backs from residential properties.

Parks Development will pass on all comments regarding the possibility of making a natural ice rink that can be flooded within the existing basketball court to Parks Operations for their review and comment. Parks Development is currently undertaking a park redevelopment strategy for 2015 which will help to provide input on existing park facility needs throughout the City.

5. Site Furniture Comments:

- a) Request to install more garbage/ recycling units within the existing park.
- b) Request to have garbage/ recycling cans emptied more regularly;
- c) Request to install a park site indicating "Please use the garbage containers, it's your neighbourhood."

Response: The proposed concepts illustrate the installation of an additional three (3) recycling units and one (1) garbage unit within the new park expansion. Parks Operations completes regular park maintenance which includes but is not limited to all necessary grass cutting and garbage/ recycling pick up on a regular schedule. Park Bylaw signage for no dumping is standard in all park construction and will be installed as part of the expansion plan.

6. Other Comments:

- a) Request to extend depths of residential lots along Royal Appian Crescent and Preston Hill into the proposed park expansion.
- b) How are the residents going to be affected if at all, with property taxes with the new changes to Agostino Park?

Response: The City of Vaughan will not sell City lands unless they have been declared surplus to the City's needs. Comments regarding taxes will be passed onto finance for their review and comment.

Conclusions:

The community open house for the proposed park expansion works at Agostino Park was well attended with general support for the Agostino Park expansion. There were many comments received in support of providing additional park amenities such as tennis courts, splash pads, an ice rink and a walking loop among other park features and improvements to the existing park facilities, pathways and site furnishings. All comments and suggestions made will be reviewed and considered throughout design development and construction and changes will be made were feasible.

Distribution:

Councillor Racco – Ward 4

Jamie Bronsema – Parks Development



Martin Tavares- Parks Development
File

ATTACHMENT '2'

COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM RESIDENTS	
COMMENT 1	I think the plan is great. I do not play soccer but glad the park will be maintained and it is a good thing for the Dufferin Hill Area. Make a big parking lot. Street lights and better enforcement of traffic law on Confederation Parkway. It is as busy as Dufferin on Confederation Parkway. Resident would hate to see any children run over by a car stop signs seem optional in the area.
COMMENT 2	Need more Regional and District Parks. Need more security and lighting,
COMMENT 3	Please update the park area for the kids. Remove the sand and add wood chips
COMMENT 4	Please make a running trail instead of the soccer field.
COMMENT 5	I think that it is a great idea! I would like to see also track for track and field and jogging. Resident thinks that this space is big enough to place some tennis courts too. Thumbs up for any sports investment.
COMMENT 6	Have you thought about the million dollar lawsuits from not putting in the backdrop fencing in Phase 1? It needs to go in with phase 1 It could cost all 3 of you your jobs. There's not enough garbage cans in the existing park. Need to add recycling bins to existing park.
COMMENT 7	Love the idea of sports field. Definitely do not want to see residential housing on the land. Future development of the park itself would be welcomed eg. Splash pad, larger playground equipment, foam play area rather than sand. Also skating rink would also be beneficial. Major concern would be parking for field unless along Preston Hill. This is one location where users maybe able to access the field. They would definitely use the street for parking. Any plans for street usage to limit the congested during permitted game use.
COMMENT 8	1)A major concern of mine is the defacement of public property in the area. Signs, posters, advertising on mail boxes, street lamp posts etc. This devalues properties and the area as a whole. There should be a by law to disallow this from happening. The area looks junky and will go downhill further if nothing is done about it now. It is embarrassing where people come into the area and are faced with this appearance of public property. Something must be done about it now before it gets worse. How can residents have pride of ownership. Pleas pass this comments to the person, department who can do something about it. 2) How are the residents going to be affected if at all, with the property taxes with the new changes to Agostino Park with this new project.
COMMENT 9	<p>Further to July 8th community meeting regarding the above, my comments/suggestions are as follows:</p> <p>I would like to have seen this new development as an extended community park area with perhaps a baseball diamond, tennis court, more pine trees, and more walking paths for the people of the Dufferin Hill Community to enjoy. However, if the City does not plan to do this, and goes ahead with the new soccer field (as if we don't have enough in the park already), at least:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) if a parking lot is placed in off of Confederation Parkway, please make sure that enough cameras are placed in that parking lot to avoid potential problems which still occur in the this park; b) put in a track and field surrounding this new soccer field so that at least the community can use it. Trying to go for walks south of Confederation Parkway would be difficult because of the factory odor. If the community had a track around the new soccer field, it could avoid this problem. c) do not add new park benches as this brings in problems into the park; d) add more garbage/recycling bins for people to use have their done with their games; e) not exceed a time in the evening for games. I don't know what that'll be, maybe 9:00 p.m., keeping in mind this is a residential area and this field is very close to home. <p>I'm aware that the City owns this park, however I hope that it takes into consideration the above so that we can all be happy as other communities are as well with their parks.</p>

COMMENT 10	<p>Good Morning, It was a pleasure meeting you and learning the good news.</p> <p>Here are my comments/suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On the existing playground/soccer field, I would like to see the existing paved trail completed to the far end at the back, making the trail a loop for a walking/running track. 2. For the new parking lot, drainage for waste water, ie: snow melt, rains, grading should be reviewed. 3. New Parking to be on list of regular parking patrols. 4. Although there is 15m field line to the houses, there will be cases where the ball will hit or drop into the backyards, if this happens, rules need to be set up: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Permit holder will be in charge to get lost soccer balls. b) Jumping fences to get ball is not an option, done at risk of injury. 5. Activities on the new park/field need to be confined to playing soccer and any related tasks.
COMMENT 11	<p>I live in the neighbourhood of Dufferin Hill and have a few comments about the new soccer field development at Agostino park. I'm not fond of the idea of building the new soccer field, in fact, by talking with a few neighbours, she knows that most of them do not like the idea. It will increase the traffic on Confederation parkway when most of the kids are out playing around that area. There is a safety concern from most of the parents. There is a mini soccer field in Agostino park right now it is good enough for most of the kids. We do not feel that it will benefit from a new bigger soccer field. Instead, we would prefer something that can serve the neighbourhood better, e.g. there is nowhere within walking distance for the kids to play in the winter something like an indoor activity center, or an ice rink would be welcome. Resident suggested to change the sand to mulch or something similar in the existing playgrounds. The sand does not serve well after rainy days.</p>
COMMENT 12	<p>The parking lot should be lit so it doesn't become a place to hang out, parking for break ins, or drug trafficking. We've had people park on our street that have broken into cars and attempted to break into houses during the night. Provide garbage cans and collection enough to keep the area tidy. Provide signs such as "Please use the garbage containers, it's your neighbour hood."</p>
COMMENT 13	<p>There are already over 50 plus soccer fields in Vaughan which are already poorly maintained and he does not feel that an adult soccer field is required for this park area. The garbage cans are always full and not removed on a regular basis. This is totally unsanitary especially with children playing nearby. The grass is not properly maintained vagrants occupy this park after hours and a police presence should be made more often - at those hours at night they are not there to play soccer. The Park needs an improvement with the playground facilities, removal of the sand installation of cork floor or equivalent a water splash pad, tennis court, volleyball improved security more cameras and lighting. This is what the park needs - not another waste of taxpayers hard earned money for an adult soccer field that we don't need.</p>

COMMENT 14	<p>After being a resident in this area for over 12 years. I am delighted that the City has take steps to plan the future use of land adjacent to Agostino Park. However, I am concerned that the park plan put forward by the City is not in the best interest of the surrounding community as a whole. The explanation to develop the existing land in an adult size soccer field is a bit concerning considering the fact that we already have not one but two fields in the park already. When I raised that concern at the meeting, I was told that the new fields will not be the size of the existing fields. But why do we need four fields in the one area? Are there not enough soccer fields already? In addition the plan to have a parking lot accommodate the players will never be enough space for everyone. As one team is 11 players 1 soccer field of players would be 22 players altogether which could potentially mean 22 parking spots accounted for per team of players for one game. What if the other field has a game at the same time? The parking lot would only be big enough to hold the team players. Where would everyone else park. Along Confederation Parkway and Preston Hill? How will the City ensure the community that the parking situation will be monitored properly and continuously to avoid the congestion of the traffic? Also Mr. Tippet I' am sure at one point you must have also attended soccer games at a field in Vaughan yourself. I am sure you are well aware of the garbage that is produced during these games and events. How will the City insure that the garbage will be collected in a timely manner and that the fields are kept clean? In my own visits to the park I can tell you that I have never seen the garbage cans empty or neat. The City can barely keep up with it as it is now. These concerns are valid and troublesome from a taxpayer that would like to see good yet efficient use of the land. Has the City considered any alternatives to this suggested plan? Why have no alternatives been presented to the community? What about a tennis court with benches for the elderly and trails that kids can ride their bikes on? How about an outdoor skating rink in the winter? For years we wished that the City would build a splash pad or improve the existing park for the children but for ALL children, not just those belong to the Vaughan soccer club for the while community in surrounding area.</p>
COMMENT 15	<p>I'm very happy to hear that the vacant land at Confederation and Dufferin Hill will be changing to new and improved soccer field. I would really like to see a running track and bicycle riding path for the kids and families of Dufferin Hill. The Closest running track I know of is at Dufferin Clark. I'm a very proud citizen of Vaughan and I love all the parks around. Wouldn't want to live anywhere else.</p>
COMMENT 16	<p>I have no objection to the location of proposed field and parking lot providing: There will be no lighting on the field (as stated by staff at the open house as this is not a district park and will not be lit. There will be an appropriate.resonable set back from our rear yard lot lines (at least 15m as shown on the drawings at the open house). There will be appropriate landscaping/screening all the way along the chain link fence which separates our rear yards from the field. Parks permit staff will not allow the field to be used until the parking lot has been constructed at the east end closest to Confederation Parkway (to avoid further parking issues when fields on other side of the park are also being used). If being developed in stages (as per staff suggestion at open house) he City will maintain the appearance of the lands in as neat and orderly fashion as possible. As fars suggestions for the remainder of the park: some sort of walking/running track that connects the entire park. Updating the playground equipment to include fitness - type equipment as is being installed in newer parks. At open house, City staff suggested at a minimum to remove the sand in playgrounds and replace with rubber or some type of mulch. Resident has spoken to other neighbours who back onto the field (most who did not attend the open house) and generally are happy that the lands are not being sold to a developer to build more homes and that the City expanding the park. As the field os developed later this year, we look forward to working together with City staff to address any issues which may arise.</p>

COMMETN 17	<p>I went to the open forum this week to get details on the project, here are my comments and concerns.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm not in favour of the project. • We don't need another soccer field (especially senior field) in Vaughan as there are 47 fields now. Plus we have lots of fields at elementary and high schools that get used every night. • There is no benefit for the residents of area for the senior field project. • We will have major traffic issues on confederation parkway and adjacent streets in the neighbourhood with this project. We need a complete traffic and motion study to be done before we move forward. • I live on preston hill, we have a parking issue on the street now with the 2 fields, add in another senior soccer field, the issue will be more and unacceptable. • What were the other options for this project? The city staff at the open forum couldn't answer that question. • I have other suggestions for the open land for consideration that will provide greater community benefit: cut the grass and turn the field into a green space (paths and picnic area, trees, etc & no soccer field), tennis courts and in winter ice rink, revamp the current park 15 yrs old and bring up to current standards (better lighting, equipment, paths, lights, etc).
COMMENT 18	<p>Thank You for the presentation at North Thornhill community center on Tuesday.</p> <p>Some suggestions regarding the proposed Senior Soccer field, more specifically, the existing park/playground located at Agostino Park.</p> <p>What I, and many of my neighbours would like to see is a rejuvenation of the existing playground and park lands of Agostino park. Specifically, removal of the playground sand and replacement with something more "hygienic", as the wildlife in the nearby forest use the sand as a litter box. Secondly, a "modernization" of the playground equipment (something more along the lines of what is located just up the road on Peter Rupert) with climbing nets/apparatuses, seated swings , slides, etc. Third, create/establish a "natural" outdoor skating rink out of the existing basketball court in the winter. Finally, we would like to have a walking path created using some of the existing pathway which would then encircle the existing "mini" soccer field so that seniors (or anyone else for that matter) in the neighbourhood could use it as an exercise walking "track".</p> <p>Thank You for taking into consideration my suggestions.</p>
COMMENT 19	<p>Here are some of my ideas for the planned development at Agostino Park. The bolded items are extremely important to my family, and many of my neighbours. -refreshment and replacement of existing play structure and ground surface to enhance safety and enjoyment for community. - installation of skate supply to allow for flooding of basketball court in winter to allow skating. - tennis courts. - splash pad and/ or outdoor pool. -Bocce pads. - ice rink.</p>
COMMENT 20	<p>There are votes for each options summarised: Soccer field -4, Tennis Courts -13, Extend Lots -6, Others: Walking trails - 2, water park-2, running track -1, baseball diamond -2, extend park- 2, swimming pool -1, school-1, basketball -1.</p>
COMMENT 21	Soccer field, Tennis Court, Swimming pool, School
COMMENT 22	Soccer Field, Tennis Court, Extend Depth of the Lots along Royal Appian Cres and Preston Hill Cres, Working Trails
COMMENT 23	Basketball Court
COMMENT 24	Extend depth of the lots along Royal Appian Cres. And Preston Hill Cres.
COMMENT 25	Water Park, Track Fields
COMMENT 26	Soccer field, Tennis Courts
COMMENT 27	Soccer Field, Tennis Courts , Extend Depth of the lots along Royal Appian Cres. And Preston Hill Cres.
COMMENT 28	Tennis Courts, Extend depth of the lots along Royal Appian Cres. And Preston Hills Cres.
COMMENT 29	Tennis Courts, running track
COMMENT 30	Extend depth of the lots along Royal Appian Cres. And Preston Hill Cres.
COMMENT 31	Tennis Courts
COMMENT 32	Tennis Courts
COMMENT 33	Tennis Courts
COMMENT 34	Tennis Courts

COMMENT 35	Tennis Courts, Baseball Diamond
COMMENT 36	Extend Park
COMMETN 37	Tennis Courts, Baseball Diamond, Track, More park with walking trails, more trees.
COMMENT 38	Smaller Water park for kids.