



MINUTES
MARKHAM SUB-COMMITTEE
June 20, 2013
Canada Room

Members

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath
Councillor Carolina Moretti
Councillor Colin Campbell

Staff

Biju Karumanchery, Senior Development Manager
Catherine Jay, Manager, Urban Design
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

Others

Chris Strzemieczny, Mattamy Development
Bobby Bhoola, Ballantry Homes
Tom Pechkovsky, York Catholic District School Board
Adam McDonald, York Catholic District School Board
Jane Ross, York Region District School Board

The Markham Sub-Committee convened at 1:40 p.m. with Councillor Colin Campbell as Chair.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – None Declared

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

**2. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:
PROPOSED SECONDARY SCHOOL SITE EXCHANGE IN CORNELL BETWEEN
PUBLIC AND CATHOLIC SCHOOL BOARDS AND THE POTENTIAL
ACCOMMODATION OF SOCCER FIELDS WITHIN THESE SCHOOL SITES (10.0)**

On February 1, 2011, the Development Services Committee referred the school site exchange in Cornell to the Markham Subcommittee. The following documents were provided for background information:

- Minutes of the Development Services Committee meeting held on February 1, 2011
- Staff report

3. DISCUSSIONS

The Committee discussed development of partnerships between community centres and schools for sports fields and facilities. A land exchange between the two School Boards involving secondary school sites that would accommodate this opportunity was outlined.

Chris Strzemieczny, Mattamy Development, identified a potential 15 acre parcel for school purposes at Bur Oak & Church St. Location, across from the Cornell Community Centre that would be conducive to this arrangement.

Staff reviewed various issues including land values, configuration, size, and ownership of the site. An area map identifying the subject sites was displayed.

Jane Ross advised that the construction of a new high school in Cornell is on the York Region District School Board priority list. The current site is a good site and is a straightforward proposition, whereas the proposed site would require trustee approval as well as evaluations, soil testing, etc. There are also traffic issues and additional cost issues relating to land value and provision of servicing by the developer.

Tom Pechkovsky, York Catholic District School Board, advised that although they are aware of the general location across from the Cornell Community Centre a precise school site has not been determined as they are at least 6-7 years away from considering a new high school. Tom noted that the separate school site beside the Cornell Village Public School is being deemed surplus to their needs but is not appropriate for the purposes of this land exchange proposal.

The proposed site configuration was discussed with respect to the irregular shape and size. The adjacent 45 acre parkland could be used to incorporate field space.

Jane Ross advised that the architects will begin the design process for the public secondary school in the near future and will need to be aware of the possible site switch, so that an adaptable product can be developed. Chris Strezemieczny agreed to provide the preliminary technical and engineering information for the proposed catholic secondary school site to the public School Board, to assist with preparations.

The Committee requested that the outstanding issues be worked out over the summer. Ms. Ross will begin talks with the Trustees and senior staff at the School Board, and Mr. Strezemieczny will look into the severance process for the parcel, and both will keep staff informed. The Committee will meet again later in the summer if there is any support for the proposal and progress to discuss. Funding options will be brought forward separately.

The Committee determined that the second issue identified in the February 1, 2011 staff report (soccer fields within vacant school sites in Cornell) is no longer relevant.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Markham Sub-Committee adjourned at 2:50 p.m.