



MEMORANDUM


To: Chair and Members of Development Services Committee

From: Jim Baird, Commissioner of Development Services

Prepared by: Stephen Corr, Planner II, East District

Date: June 10, 2014

RE: **Toronto Region Conservation Authority
Proposed Parking Lot at 7373 Reesor Road (Cedarena)
File No. SC 14-118802**



RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the Memorandum dated June 10, 2014, regarding "Toronto Region Conservation Authority's, Proposed Parking Lot at 7373 Reesor Road (Cedarena), File No. SC 14 118802", be received;
- 2) That the presentation by Mark Lowe of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, regarding a proposed parking lot at 7373 Reesor Road, be received;
- 3) And that staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE

This memorandum provides information to Development Services Committee regarding a site plan application submitted by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), proposing a parking lot at 7373 Reesor Road (Cedarena).

In conjunction with this memorandum, the proponents will be presenting the details of their proposal to Development Services Committee. This is an information item, and site plan approval is delegated to staff.

BACKGROUND

The 2,795 m² (30,085 ft²) subject lands are a portion of a 84 ha (208 ac) property located on the east side of Reesor Road, south of 14th Avenue in the Hamlet of Cedar Grove (See Figures 1 and 2). The site is owned by the Toronto Region Conservation Authority, and is part of the Bob Hunter Memorial Park (BHMP). It is intended that these lands will be conveyed to Parks

Canada as part of the future Rouge National Urban Park. Cedarena, a community run outdoor skating rink is also located on the property. The applicant is proposing a parking lot on the southwest portion of the site, with access to Reesor Road. A site plan illustrating the proposed parking lot is provided as Figure 3. The proposed parking lot is intended to serve users of the hiking trails within BHMP and Cedarena, when open in the winter. The parking lot replaces the current parking area used by Cedarena.

Accordingly, the proposed parking lot has two separate sections. One for BHMP and one for Cedarena. The parking area for BHMP is approximately 535 m^2 ($5,758 \text{ ft}^2$) in size, and provides parking for fourteen vehicles. This parking area will be available year round and comprises heavy duty limestone screening. The parking area for Cedarena is approximately $2,260 \text{ m}^2$ ($24,326 \text{ ft}^2$) in area, and provides parking for 80 cars. This parking area will be constructed with reinforced grass pavers and will be available for use as needed, predominantly in the winter months. A gate is proposed to separate the two parking areas. Landscape screening has been provided on the site to screen the existing residential dwelling to the north.

The proposed parking lot was designed by the TRCA, in consultation with members of the Cedarena Executive Committee, residents of Cedar Grove, the Region of York, Parks Canada and Markham staff. The approval authority for this site plan application is delegated to staff. However, since there has been a considerable amount of consultation with community members and public agencies, a presentation has been arranged to allow the proponents to inform Development Services Committee about the proposal.

This project is funded by the Region of York through the Southeast Collector Enhancement fund and managed by the TRCA. This project is the last phase of the BHMP implementation program which consists of natural heritage restoration, trail construction, pedestrian bridges and parking facilities. The new trails are located immediately south of the proposed parking lot. They will connect to the recently built trails located on the east side of Reesor Road.

Figure 1 – 7373 Reesor Road Location



Figure 2 – Proposed Parking Lot Location



Figure 3 Proposed Site Plan

