



NOTES
MARKHAM SUB-COMMITTEE
October 2, 2017, 3:00 p.m.
York Room

Committee Members

Staff

Stephen Chait, Director of Economic Growth, Culture & Entrepreneurship
Carrie Colangelo, Culture Coordinator
Lilli Duoba, Manager, Natural Heritage
Biju Karumanchery, Acting Director, Planning & Urban Design
Parvathi Nampoothri, Senior Planner, Urban Design
Marion Plaunt, Manager, Intensification and Secondary Plans
Patrick Wong, Planner II, Natural Heritage
Kitty Bavington, Council/Committee Coordinator

Guests

Pam Veinotte, Parks Canada
Richard Scott, Parks Canada
Frank Palombi, Lindvest Properties
Paul Nodwell, Schollen & Company
Niomie Massey, Cornell Landowners Group
Christian Lamanna, Madison Group
Changize Sadr, Liberty/CSCO Group
Lezlie Phillips, Liberty
Andrew Walker, Gagnon Walker Domes
Michael Gagnon, Gagnon Walker Domes
David Singer, Madison Group
Mike Bender, TRCA
Michael Coakley, Infrastructure Ontario
Monica Stade, Infrastructure Ontario
Maria Efimova, 407 ETR
Shirley Marsh, York Region Rapid Transit Corp
Jason Ezer, York Region

The Markham Sub-Committee convened at 3:12 pm without quorum.

1. Cornell Rouge National Urban Park Gateway Vision and Design Plan Draft Terms of Reference

Lilli Duoba, Manager, Natural Heritage, gave a presentation on the RNUP Gateway Vision and Design Plan, describing the subject lands and the process to date. Staff are seeking directions for moving forward with the Terms of Reference. Once the Terms of Reference are endorsed, the Request for Proposal will be released and consultants will be retained to undertake the study.

A summary of the Charrette highlights was provided with respect to traffic calming, ecological linkage, public art, building massing, form and height, and the Locust Hill lands. The next phase is to prepare a Vision and Design Plan, and an Implementation Plan. Discussions included collaboration and partnerships, scope of the work, deliverables, and challenges.

Group discussions:

- There was support for a review of Locust Hill land uses in addition to the streetscape, as the two are intertwined. There was interest in reviewing employment uses as these may not be as desirable as residential.
- There is a placeholder in the Draft Cornell Centre Secondary Plan for this area to allow for the inclusion of additional policies as may be appropriate. The objective is to create a great space.
- Locust Hill will continue to be predominantly a residential area.
- It was suggested that the land owners be consulted prior to completion of the design work, whether through a charrette or working session.
- The study area will include an outlying area of influence.
- There was support for the placement of the gateway in between two intersections in order to maximize the use of the four surrounding land parcels.
- This project will take a year or more to complete as there are many parties and issues involved.
- The study will include road cross sections for Reeser Road / 10th Line.
- There will be two primary Welcome Centres and some smaller ones, i.e. the small centre at Major Mackenzie Drive and Elgin Mills. A decision has not been made on the main Visitor Centre in Markham, pending this study and determining partnerships.
- The Secondary Plan is not the appropriate process for employment lands conversions. Employment conversions are the responsibility of the Region through a municipal comprehensive review.
- This study and the Secondary Plan will help inform any future land use discussions with the Region.
- Parks Canada is collecting stats on visitors, primarily in the former Rouge Park. It indicates that it is predominantly the resident market using the park now, but people are starting to drive farther to get to the park. As the trails increase, the number of visitors are expected to increase.
- The Uxbridge trail system was noted as a successful venture. Services and restaurants are provided for people coming out of the trails – bike racks, hotels, cafes. It is a busy initiative during the day but there is very little at night.
- Both visitors and residents need to be accommodated, and linked along the corridor.

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Next Steps

The presentation and comments will be shared with the members of the Markham Sub-committee, and staff will proceed with the consultant selection process. Authorization for the Study was confirmed by Council on May 29, 2017. Group participants were encouraged to submit any additional comments.

Adjournment

The Markham Sub-Committee adjourned at 4:10 pm.