

INFORMATION REPORT TOWN OF NEWMARKET 395 Mulock Drive P.O. Box 328 Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

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June 7, 2017

#### OFFICE OF THE C.A.O. INFORMATION REPORT 2017-13

	Mayor and Members of Council SLT/OLT	
	Acquisition of Lands – Land Donation  – Marianneville East Site of Bathurst Street, South of Sykes Road	
ORIGIN: (	Office of the Chief Administrative Officer	

The purpose of this Information Report is to advise of a significant land donation provided to the Town by Marianneville Developments Limited.

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any Member of Council may request that this Information Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion through the Clerk.

## COMMENTS

#### The land donation is a result of on-going discussions with the property owner.

As part of the Recreation Master Plan (the Playbook) Implementation Strategy the CAO was directed to initiate discussions with the Owner regarding the disposition of the balance of the former golf course (west lands). We are pleased to advise that these discussions have continued since Council's direction and included consideration of giving back to the community, ultimately leading to the owner offering to donate a portion of the lands to the Town.

Appendix "A" shows the land to be donated to the Town, being land for park/open space purposes as well as land supporting the existing stormwater management facilities.

In addition to the land donation, Marianneville has agreed to design and construct trails and related works at its cost on, and adjacent to, the donated lands at a time agreed to with the Town. The trail will connect to the Bathurst Street sidewalk, the existing trail in the Kirby Crescent Park, and Alex Doner Drive. For the portion of the trail proposed on lands retained by Marianneville an easement will be required and provided to permit public access over private land. The trails are shown schematically on appendix 'B'. As per our standard protocol the trail designs and details will be finalized after a public consultation process.

The lands are to be conveyed to the Town at such time as may be determined by the Town.

# The land donation serves an immediate purpose and allows the Town flexibility in the future should additional municipal uses be identified.

Although lands in this area were not identified as being needed through the Recreation Playbook exercise for a specific recreational facility or municipal purpose, the securement of these lands in the interim provides for open space and trail purposes, providing additional green space and recreational opportunities for Newmarket residents in an urbanizing region.

Should a specific municipal need be identified in the longer term, these lands, together with other Town-owned lands, will be evaluated in terms of their appropriateness and ability to accommodate any such use.

#### Canada 150

The discussions with the owner have included consideration of giving back to the community through a donation, perhaps as an acknowledgement of Canada's 150 years since Confederation. This resulted in the owner offering a land donation for public use, which will be marked by a recognition plaque along the trail.

#### The balance of the land remains in the ownership of Marianneville.

Marianneville continues to own the balance of the west lands that are not included in this land donation. These lands include a woodlot, stormwater management ponds and former golf course fairways. Should Marianneville file a development application for some or all of these remaining lands, the application will stand on its own and be reviewed in accordance with the prescribed *Planning Act* process.

#### Additional property secured from Marianneville.

In addition to this land donation, Marianneville has conveyed the former golf course maintenance building and land to the Town at no cost. The acquisition of this parcel of land and building will provide the Town with a location on the west side of Town to store equipment and vehicles used in the on-going maintenance of the Town's parks facilities and infrastructure.

Appendix "C" shows the location of the property and the associated maintenance building adjoining the Ray Twinney Recreation Complex.

Finally, Appendix "D" to this report identifies all of the land that will be in public ownership through both the original development application and as a result of the current land donation and conveyance of the maintenance building and lands. Not including the existing Kirby Park, which is also identified, with this donation, approximately 27% of the overall Marianneville land holding will be in public ownership.

#### COMMUNICATION

A number of tools are being considered to communicate this positive outcome concurrently with this report, including a media release, and Council communique.

#### **BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES**

This report supports the following branch of the Town's Strategic Plan:

Living well: emphasis on active lifestyles and recreational opportunities

Well-balanced: green and open spaces, parks and playing fields

Well-equipped and managed: leadership excellence and leading-edge management

Well-planned and connected: walking and biking trails, paths and lanes

Well-respected: discovering innovative and creative solutions for future well-being

#### HUMAN RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable to this Information Report.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT**

There will be future on-going operational costs associated with the trail and property maintenance at such time as the lands are conveyed to the Town and the trails constructed. There is no capital cost to the Town as the lands shown on Appendix 'A' are to be donated with the owner being provided with tax receipts reflecting the value of the donation. The capital cost for the trails will be covered by Marianneville.

### CONTACT

For more information on this report, contact B. Shelton, Chief Administrative Officer (<u>bshelton@newmarket.ca</u>) or at 905-895-5193.

Chief Administrative Officer

## Appendix "A" – Land Donation Area





Land to be Donated

## Appendix "B" – Trail Location



Donated Lands Kirby Park

Existing Paved Trail

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## Appendix "C" – Other Land Donation (Phase 1)



Other Land Donation

## Appendix "D" – Lands in Public Ownership

