

South Etobicoke Skateboard Facility: Assessment of Natural Environment at Potential Site in Colonel Samuel Smith Park

1. Background:

- City has a project to address identified need for a skateboard park in South Etobicoke.
- Proposed skateboard park considered to be district-level permanent facility (1500sq.m- 3000sq.m, with capacity for 60-120 skateboarders) in concrete.
- Colonel Samuel Smith Park, next to the Power House, has been identified as a location with high potential for the development of the facility.
- Previous planning exercises for Colonel Sam. Smith have proposed the development of a skating facility at the Power House, at same site, so skateboard facility and skating rink would be joint uses of the site.
- Community members have expressed concerns regarding potential impacts of the proposed skateboard facility on the natural environment, including bird habitat and wetlands.
- The site is located adjacent to the natural heritage system as identified in the City's Official Plan

2. Objectives:

- Undertake an assessment to identify natural heritage features and potential impacts to specific features and functions of the natural environment at Colonel Samuel Smith Park.
- Identify measures that should be considered to mitigate potential impacts.
- Identify additional studies with respect to impacts and mitigation measures.

3. Scope of Work:

Assessment of existing conditions:

Undertake an assessment of existing conditions of the site and nearby areas (including the open field at the site, adjacent wooded areas, buffers, riparian zones, wetlands, and watercourse/creek). It should include:

- type and quality of terrestrial and aquatic habitats
- type and quality of vegetation
- wildlife



Impact identification and analysis

Evaluate potential impacts to the natural environment (including the open field at the site, adjacent wooded areas, buffers, riparian zones, wetlands, and watercourse/creek) both during construction and after completion. The following aspects should be addressed:

- Potential impact to terrestrial and aquatic habitat at the site and adjacent to it.
- Potential impact to significant vegetation from removal and damage, change in drainage/ reduction of infiltration, etc.
- Potential impact to wildlife, including impacts of noise, increased human presence, etc.

Impact Mitigation

Propose measures to mitigate or address any potential negative impacts to the natural environment (as identified above), both during construction and after completion.

Additional Studies

Identify the need to undertake additional studies, if the result of this assessment shows potential of significant impacts to the natural environment.

Prepared by: Adriana Gomez
Parks and Recreation Planning
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