



September 19, 2005

Ms. Brenda Librecz  
General Manager  
Parks, Forestry and Recreation  
City of Toronto  
City Hall  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor, East Tower  
100 Queen Street  
Toronto, ON M5H2N2

Dear Ms. Librecz:

We are writing regarding the selection process for location of the skateboard facility that has been approved for Ward 6. We understand that a Staff Report on the skateboard facility is being prepared and will be recommending a preferred location for it.

It is our hope that we can support the City of Toronto in undertaking a fair, open and transparent process in the selection of the location of the site. We are also seeking to ensure that appropriate due diligence is undertaken with respect to the environmental sensitivity of Colonel Sam Smith Park.

In an effort to provide constructive assistance we have developed a series of questions that we believe will be helpful in ensuring that the best possible decision is made. This information will also help guide our organization in determining how we can best protect this natural park and its wildlife.

***Review by a Biologist***

We understand that the City of Toronto has hired a biologist for this project.

1. Can our organization have a copy of the Terms of Reference for the hiring of the biologist?
2. Will the biologist's review consider the cumulative environmental impact of the skateboard facility, Father John Redmond Secondary School (under construction) and the proposed Catholic elementary school?
3. The park has become recognized as an important local staging area for many species of migratory birds. Will the biologist examine the impact of the proposed location within the park in terms of habitat fragmentation and its effect on bird migration?
4. Will the report examine the impact of stormwater on the adjacent creek and wetlands?
5. Will the review comment on fencing and lighting?
6. Will the biologist be provided with noise data from similar facilities?
7. May we have the name and contact information of the biologist?
8. Will the review by the biologist be public in advance of the writing of the Staff Report on the skateboard facility and its preferred location?

***Public Involvement in the Selection of the Location of the Skateboard Facility***

To date only one openly advertised public meeting has been held regarding the skateboard facility and its location.

9. Will the Staff Report and review by the biologist be made public before a decision is made with respect to location?
10. Will there be a community meeting, after release of the Staff Report, in order that we can verify the contents of the report in terms of our position and to comment on its conclusions?
11. What group or individuals will be making the final decision on the location of the skateboard facility?

***City of Toronto Actions***

To what extent has the City studied similar facilities, both successful and unsuccessful, to evaluate the site characteristics consistent with a safe and successful facility.

12. What process was followed to determine the projects to be funded by the Monarch development funds?
13. Will the skateboard facility, regardless of location, be designed to be completed with the funds already designated by council? If additional funding is required for the facility, its services, or amenities, what effect will this have on spending for other local services and facilities?
14. When will the City of Toronto be establishing the long promised Planning Committee for Colonel Sam Smith Park with adjacent landowners and community representatives?

There were four locations proposed for a skateboard facility at the June public meeting. We would support any of the other three locations, as well as at least two others that did not make the short list.

We are concerned about the possibility that action will be taken quickly to select Colonel Sam Smith Park without citizen involvement or environmental protection. Hence, I would appreciate an early reply to this submission even if not all of the questions can be answered at our first conversation. I can easily be contacted during normal business hours at 416- 0.

Sincerely

Brian Bailey  
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