



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Rob Anderson, Recreation Division Coordinator

MEETING DATE: June 15, 2010

**SUBJECT: Report APRAC10-022
Proposed Community Garden Sites**

PURPOSE

A report to inform the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of a request to establish community gardens on three City-owned properties.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee endorse the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC10-022 dated June 15, 2010, of the Recreation Division Coordinator, as follows:

- a) That City Staff be directed to investigate the feasibility of establishing a community garden on each of the following three City-owned properties, as requested by the Peterborough Community Garden Network:
 - i) Wentworth Park
 - ii) Inverlea Park
 - iii) Quaker Park – (West Side of London Street Foot Bridge)
- b) That City Staff be directed to proceed with the establishment of a community garden at each of these sites that are deemed feasible to accommodate community gardening activity.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget or financial implications as a result of endorsing the recommendations of Report APRAC10-022. All expenses can be accommodated within the approved 2010 community gardens budget, as per Report CSRS10-002, dated April 6, 2010.

BACKGROUND

On April 12, 2010, City Council approved the Community Garden Policy (Report CSRS10-002). That policy provides City Staff with a framework to assist the general public to establish community gardens on City-owned property.

The Recreation Division is responsible for managing all requests to establish new community gardens on City-owned property. The Peterborough Community Garden Network (PCGN), which is currently operating under the umbrella of Peterborough Green-Up, has agreed to help coordinate all local community gardening efforts, and be the single point of contact for the City.

As the Recreation Division receives requests, staff from other divisions will be consulted, such as Public Works, Planning, Legal, Waste Management, Engineering, Transportation, etc. The Recreation Division, in cooperation with the PCGN will conduct public consultation, as required.

Upon completion of the required consultation with staff and the public, reports will be presented to the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC), seeking endorsement to either grant or deny permission to establish a community garden on the requested site.

On May 14, 2010, the Recreation Division received a request from the PCGN to establish a community garden at each of the following three City-owned locations: Wentworth Park, Inverlea Park, and in Quaker Park at the west side of the London Street footbridge.

Staff have reviewed the three locations and determined they are suitable sites for community gardens. However, the public consultation needs to happen before granting approval. There was insufficient time to conduct the consultation process, prior to the June 15th APRAC meeting. Since APRAC does not meet again until September, Staff is seeking endorsement from APRAC to proceed with the establishment of a community garden at each of these sites, if deemed feasible upon completion of the public consultation.

Staff would be pleased to receive input from APRAC members at this time.

Submitted by,

Rob Anderson
Recreation Division Coordinator

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