



COMMUNITY SERVICES – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
TOWN OF NEWMARKET
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

www.newmarket.ca
info@newmarket.ca
905.895.5193

June 17, 2016

**COMMUNITY SERVICES – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INFORMATION REPORT # 2016-20**

TO: Mayor Van Bynen and Members of Council

SUBJECT: Hollingsworth Arena Petition Follow up

ORIGIN: Community Services – Recreation and Culture

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


BACKGROUND

A petition was received by Legislative Services on October 27th, 2016 regarding Hollingsworth Arena. At the November 9th Committee of the Whole it was passed, *“THAT the petition/petitioning Newmarket Council to ‘Save Hollingsworth Arena’ be received and referred to staff for a report that clarifies the petition preamble as part of the public consultation process related to the disposition of the Hollingsworth Arena.”*

Given there is an Open House scheduled for Wednesday, June 22 at 6 pm at the Community Centre and Lions Hall, this information report is being circulated in follow up to the previously indicated Council direction.

COMMENTS

The petition preamble states, *“ A developer wishes to purchase the arena, demolish it, and put two high rise apartment buildings, townhomes and retail stores. If this goes ahead, the residents of Ward 3 will not have access to a local recreation facility. Closure of this facility will result in decreased access to ice time, which is a growing concern in town. Hollingsworth arena is currently booked 85% of the time. The ward, as well as the town needs this facility. If the arena is lost, this area of town will be grossly under serviced for recreation. We understand the need for growth and development in Newmarket, but we ask that council explore other locations for this development to take place. Please sign and help save the arena and the land it is on!”*



Based on information presented to the Town to date regarding the potential development application, staff offers the following comments by way of clarification:

- To date there has not been any planning application submitted. The two towers being contemplated are proposed as condominium apartment buildings.
- In the event of a re-development of the current Hollingsworth property, all residents in the Town would still have access to a local recreation facility, albeit in a different form. Proposed is an urban park that includes an outdoor skating feature in the winter and a water feature in the summer. This would increase free access to recreation amenities through the activities and events such a park can facilitate. In addition, the current municipal inventory of ice pads would be maintained at the current level through a construction of a replacement ice pad at another location in Town.
- Closure of the existing Hollingsworth Arena would not result in a decreased access to ice time as Council has confirmed a commitment to maintain the current inventory of seven ice pads and would include the construction of a replacement ice pad in considerations and direction with respect to any development application.
- The closure of Hollingsworth Arena would actually result in a net increase in recreation amenities for residents with the construction of an urban park complete with amenities similar to those enjoyed at Riverwalk Commons as well as the construction of a replacement arena at another location in Town.

BUSINESS PLAN AND STRATEGIC PLAN LINKAGES

Living Well

- Emphasis on active lifestyles and recreational opportunities

Well Balanced

- Recreational facilities and services

Strategic Priority: Creating a strategy for vibrant and livable corridors along Davis Drive and Yonge Street

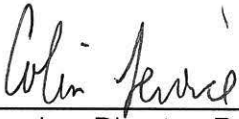
Strategic Priority: Enhancing our recreational and community facilities

BUDGET IMPACT

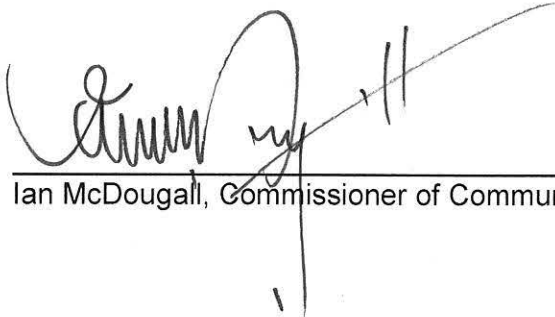
Budget impact to be determined if application advances and will be factored into annual and long term budget planning.

CONTACT

For more information on this report, please contact Colin Services at cservice@newmarket.ca or at extension 2601, or Ian McDougall, Commissioner of Community Services at imcdougall@newmarket.ca or at extension 2441.



Colin Service, Director, Recreation and Culture



Ian McDougall, Commissioner of Community Services