ITEM 17 MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 4 COUNCIL MEETING 1979 01 15

WILLINGDON HEIGHTS PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Following is a report from the Parks and Recreation Administrator regarding the Willingdon Heights Park Neighbourhood Improvement Programme.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Administrator be adopted.

TO:

MUNICIPAL MANAGER

1979 January 11

FROM:

ADMINISTRATOR, PARKS AND RECREATION

SUBJECT: WILLINGDON HEIGHTS PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM -

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Recommendation:

1. That Council approve the Willingdon Heights Park Development Plan and authorize the expenditure of the Municipal share of the project \$46,250. under the terms of the Willingdon Heights Neighbourhood Improvement Program

Report

At its meeting of 1979 January 10, the Parks and Recreation Commission received the attached report from the Director of Planning on the above subject and endorsed the Development Plan submitted.

On receipt of Council approval of the project and expenditure, the Parks and Recreation Department will proceed with the development of the park.

Dennis Gaunt

AG/jce Att.

cc: Director of Planning Municipal Treasurer

Willingdon Hts. NIP Advisory Committee

ITEM 17
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 4
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ITEM

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT NO. 1
COMMISSION MEETING 79 01 10

1979 January 04

Our File: 12.135(102)

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TO:

PARKS AND RECREATION ADMINISTRATOR

FROM:

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

SUBJECT:

WILLINGDON HEIGHTS PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD IMPROVEMENT

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT PLAN

I BACKGROUND:

In 1978 May the Parks and Recreation Commission and Council approved in principle the Willingdon Heights Neighbourhood Improvement Plan. This concept plan included a proposal to develop Willingdon Heights Park. A detailed design for the park has now been prepared.

Willingdon Heights Park contains an area of 9.6 acres. The park was formerly a ravine and the site slopes from north to south. The site is bounded by William Street, Carleton Avenue, Douglas Road and the lane east of Gilmore Avenue. No future expansion of the boundaries is anticipated at this time.

Existing facilities in the park include two tennis courts, two soccer fields, one of which is illuminated, a small wading pool, some older pieces of children's play equipment and the Willingdon Heights community building and parking lot which holds approximately 50 cars. The remainder of the park is grassed open space with several trees.

II DESIGN PROCESS:

The attached designs have been prepared by the Parks and Recreation designer in co-operation with Planning Department staff and the Willingdon Heights Neighbourhood Improvement Programme Advisory Planning Committee. Preliminary plans were reviewed and discussed until a final plan was prepared. The plan has been circulated to all residents within the Willingdon Heights area and also put on display at the NIP Office and at the Kitchener School Bazaar on 1978 December 07. Public response to the latest plan has been very positive both from children and adults. Residents of the area were interested in children's playground improvements, the additional tennis courts, the pedestrian walkways and link to Gilmore, the exercise circuit, and the tree planting and picnic table proposals.

III THE PROPOSED PLAN COMPONENTS AND RATIONALE:

The development plan is intended to make Willingdon Heights Park a feature neighbourhood park to provide a maximum number of recreational activities on a very attractive physical site. The components include the following items:

1. Playground improvements: In spite of the fact that school envoluments have dropped in Willingdon Heights,

COUNCIL MEETING 1979 01 15 It appears that many younger families are locating in the area and the demand for children's play facilities has been strong. The projects listed are based upon public (including children's) and staff suggestions for play equipment for a variety of age groups.

- Tennis Courts: The two existing tennis courts were 2. built by a volunteer ratepayers group some years ago. They are very well used and in peak periods demand is high. The improvements proposed include two additional courts, a new rebound wall and resurfacing and lighting of the existing courts.
- Grass Field Upgrading: At present there is one 3. all surface illuminated field at the north end of Willingdon Heights Park. This field is heavily used and the development plan includes an allocation to upgrade a second existing field which is adjacent (south) of the present all weather field. This project will require that some fill be placed in the park which will slightly reduce the existing playground area.
- Fitness Circuit: One of the needs identified by residents was the need for a fitness circuit in the park to provide an opportunity for fitness enthusiasts. No formal track is included as the topography of the site does not lend itself to a proper jogging facility.
- Other components of the park include pathways to 5. link the park activities together, benches, a picnic area for use by residents and by the workers in the industrial areas south of Douglas Road, drainage, extensive landscaping to improve the appearance of the park, lighting, annual flower beds, a sign, a horseshoe pitch and checkerboard and some traffic barriers along the western edge of the park. A park pedestrian link to Gilmore Avenue is also proposed in the plans along Kitchener Street, a distance of some one hundred and twenty feet, to improve access and the linkage between Kitchener School and the park.

IV PROJECT COST BREAK DOWN:

The following cost estimates were prepared for the project:

| Tennis Courts. \$ 45,063. Grass Field Upgrading 14,195. Asphalt Paths 10,729. Horseshoe 545. Checkers 800. Fitness Circuit 11,000. Picnic Area 1,350. Benches 3,750. Log Uprights 1,500. Speed Bumps 720. Drainage 5,925. Grassing (disturbed areas) 4,750. Park Lighting 5,925. Landscaping 5,925. Playground 21,370. | | and the second s |
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TOTAL.....\$168,272.

\$185,000.

COMMESSION MEETING 79

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ADMINISTRATOR'S

REPORT

ITEM 17 MANAGER'S REPORT NO. COUNCIL MEETING 1979 01 15

COST SHARING UNDER NIP:

The original Neighbourhood Improvement Programme allocation of this project was \$150,000 and was approved in principle by Council on 1978 May 23. The detailed estimate now prepared, (\$185,000), has been agreed to by the Willingdon Heights NIP Advisory Committee.

In light of the increased cost of the Willingdon Heights Park improvements, the budget has been altered as outlined below. The total budget remains at \$1,000,000. and the Municipal share of that budget remains at \$250,000.

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WILLINGDON HEIGHTS BUDGET

1979 JANUARY 04

| | Project | Initial Allocation | Initial Municipal Share | Current Concept Allocation | Current Municipal Share |
|------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Indoor Community Space | \$ 400,000 | \$100,000 | \$ 400,000 | \$100,000 |
| 2. | Willingdon Heights Park | 150,000 | 37,500 | 185,000 | 46,250 |
| 3. | Mini Park | 150,000 | 37,500 | 150,000 | 37,500 |
| 4. | Bus Shelters, Benches, Walkways | 50,000 | 12,500 | 50,000 | 12,500 |
| 5 . | Tree Planting | 50,000 | 12,500 | 50,000 | 12,500 |
| 5. | Reserve Future Proposals | 100,000 | 25,000 | 65,000 | 16, 250 |
| 7. | Planning and Administration | 100,000 | 25,000 | 100,000 | 25, 000 |
| | TOTAL | \$1,000,000 | \$250,000 | \$1,000,000 | \$250,000 |

The \$185,000 cost of the Willingdon Heights Park project will be shared as follows:

Federal Government 50%...... \$ 92,500. Provincial Government 25%..... 46,250. Municipal C.I.P. Share 25%.....

VI TIMING:

Parks staff have indicated that work could begin early in 1979 and be substantially complete by late summer of the year.

