



## **Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**Date of Meeting:** February 5, 2018

**Report Number:** SRPRS.18.037

**Department:** Planning and Regulatory Services

**Division:** Policy Planning

**Subject:** SRPRS.18.037 – Agreement between the Town of Richmond Hill and York Region District School Board regarding Bradstock Park and O.M. MacKillop Public School

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### **Purpose:**

To obtain Council's approval to execute an agreement which will set out terms and conditions associated with the Town's construction of recreational facilities on the O.M. MacKillop Public School site.

### **Recommendation:**

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the agreement between the Town of Richmond Hill and the York Region District School Board regarding the Town's construction and permitting of outdoor recreation facilities on the O.M. MacKillop Public School site, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Planning and Regulatory Services.

### **Contact Person:**

Tracey Steele, Manager of Park and Natural Heritage Planning, phone number 905-771-2476.

### **Report Approval:**

**Submitted by:** Kelvin Kwan, Commissioner of Planning and Regulatory Services

**Approved by:** Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), Town Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

## **Background:**

Bradstock Park is located on Regent Street in Ward 4, to the east of Mill Pond Park and south of Oxford Street. It is situated in between two elementary school sites, abutting St. Mary Immaculate School to the north and O.M. MacKillop Public School to the east. The boundaries between the park and school sites are not immediately obvious as the three properties function together as a complex. St. Mary Immaculate School uses Bradstock Park regularly for recess activities and the Town permits the baseball diamond on the O.M. MacKillop site to Richmond Hill Minor Ball five nights a week during the summer season.

In 2015 and 2016 the Town undertook planning and design work for the revitalization of Bradstock Park. As part of this work, staff consulted local residents and stakeholders (including Richmond Hill Minor Ball, Richmond Hill Soccer and representatives from both the adjacent schools) to better understand community needs and desires for the site. Through these consultations it was determined that the playground and two existing “mini” sized soccer fields on the site should be retained. Additionally, the four existing baseball diamonds on the site (three on Bradstock Park lands and one on the O.M. MacKillop site) should be reconfigured to be one full junior-sized diamond and two baseball in-field areas that can be programmed as “squirt” facilities (i.e., diamonds for the youngest age group of children (6 to 8 years of age) involved in baseball programming). Richmond Hill Minor Ball representatives indicated that the configuration of three baseball facilities would be optimal for the programming they have run on the site for approximately two decades.

In order to accommodate all of the recommended facilities on the site, one of the new squirt baseball facilities must be constructed on the O.M. MacKillop Public School site (see Attachment 1). While York Region District School Board (YRDSB) has indicated that they no longer construct baseball facilities on their public school sites, they will allow the municipality to install a baseball infield on their site subject to certain conditions. An agreement is therefore necessary to formalize arrangements regarding construction and operation of the baseball facility on YRDSB lands.

It is recommended that an agreement between the Town and YRDSB establish the following terms and conditions:

- The Town will construct a baseball infield and associated amenities (including walkways, bleachers, and an electrical line and pedestal) on the YRDSB land;
- The Town will be responsible for permitting the baseball infield to the community on the school site subject to the same policies and processes as permitting of its own land;
- YRDSB will be able to use the baseball infield during school hours during the school year;
- The Town will be responsible for maintaining the baseball infield, associated amenities and the turf area beyond the infield (e.g., the outfield area);

- YRDSB will allow the Town to use parking spaces on the school site in association with the permitting of any/all facilities at the Bradstock Park site; and,
- The Town will indemnify the YRDSB from and against liability arising from the Town's use of facilities on the YRDSB site.

### **Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:**

Approval of the recommendation of SRPRS.18.037 does not have any direct financial implications. The recommendation of SRPRS.18.037 authorizes execution of an agreement appropriate to facilitate the Bradstock Park Revitalization construction project which was approved through the 2018 capital budget process.

### **Relationship to the Strategic Plan:**

The Town's use of school board lands as sites for recreational facilities is consistent with the Strategic Plan objectives of serving as a role model for municipal management, committing to use land responsibly and developing and promoting a range of organized and informal sports, recreation and cultural programs with an emphasis on alternatives that people will use throughout their lives.

### **Conclusion:**

As indicated in the Town's Council-approved *Parks Plan* and *Recreation Plan*, the Town has historically relied on use of school board lands across the Town to accommodate both soccer and baseball facilities that are essential to meeting community demands for recreational facilities. The Town's revitalization of the existing baseball facility on the O.M. MacKillop Public School site will enable continuation of long-standing Richmond Hill Minor Ball programs at the site. The recommended agreement will formalize terms and conditions between the Town and YRDSB that will make this facility and its ongoing use possible.

### **Attachments:**

The following attached documents may include scanned images of appendices, maps and photographs. If you require an alternative format, please call the contact person listed in this document.

- Attachment 1 – Proposed Bradstock Park Revitalization Design

### **Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	SRPRS.18.037 Agreement between the Town and YRDSB for Bradstock Park and O.M. MacKillop PS.docx
Attachments:	- SRPRS.18.037 Attachment 1.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jan 18, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Patrick Lee - Jan 18, 2018 - 12:46 PM**

**Kelvin Kwan - Jan 18, 2018 - 2:06 PM**

**Neil Garbe - Jan 18, 2018 - 2:30 PM**