

Appendix A: Heritage Permit Application - Richmond Hill DDO Park Multi Use Path and Nature Trails

Last Updated: January 1, 2022



Heritage Permit Application

This permit form is for applicants proposing alternations to individually designated properties, cultural heritage landscapes and properties located within a heritage conservation district. Applicants are strongly advised to consult with the Heritage Planner to confirm if the work to be undertaken requires a Heritage Permit.

Attachments to this application should include all the supporting documents that will provide the necessary visual or technical information by which the project can be properly evaluated. Applicants are strongly advised to consult with the Heritage Planner prior to formally submitting their application to confirm whether additional reports or studies are required. The City only accepts applications that are complete as confirmed by the Heritage Planner.

Although it is not required to obtain professional assistance in the preparation of this application, applicants are **strongly advised** to seek such assistance from an architect, architectural technologist, preservation specialist, or others familiar with the unique requirements of designated heritage properties.

Property Information

David Dunlap Observatory Park

Municipal Address: 123A Hillview Drive, Richmond Hill, L4C 1T2

Legal Description: Plan 65M4547 BLK 470

Existing Use: Residential Commercial Institutional Other

Owner & Agent Information

Property Owner

Name of Owner: City of Richmond Hill

Phone Number: 905-771-8800 Fax: 905-771-5515 Email: _____

Address: 225 East Beaver Creek Road, Richmond Hill, Ont, L4B 3P4

Agent (if applicable)

Name of Agent: Mike McCallum, Project Manager, Infrastructure Delivery

Business Phone: 905-771-2469 Fax: _____ Email Address: mike.mccallum@richmondhill.ca

Address and/or location of designated property if different from the address above:

Individual Designation By-Law Number (Part IV) - By-Law Number: DDO Cultural Heritage Landscape By-law No.100-09
DDO Conservation Plan By-law No. 17-11

Located within the Gormley Heritage Conservation District (Part V): Yes No

Required Supporting Documents

Built Heritage Projects

1. Written Description

Describe the work to be undertaken. This must include a description of the property and its location, the work to be undertaken, construction methods and means of attachment, materials and colour to be used, potential impacts to the property's heritage attributes, and reasons why the City should approved this application.

2. Scaled Drawings

Submit scaled drawing(s) in 11"x17" or 8"x11" size illustrating the existing condition and the proposed alteration. The scaled drawing(s) for built heritage projects must include:

- Overall dimensions;
- Labelling of building elements (signs, windows, awnings, etc.) and their dimensions;
- Detailed architectural information (trim, siding, etc.) with dimensions and profiles;
- Types of material and colour to be used (MUST be noted on drawing to indicate their location); and
- Construction methods and means of attachment.

3. Photographs

Photographs of the buildings including general photos of the following:

- Heritage features and any areas that are affected by the proposed alteration or change;
- All elevations of the building;
- Streetscape in which the building is facing;
- Streetscape in which the building is located; and
- If a property is located at an intersection, all four corners of the intersection.

4. Site Plan & Construction Plans

Submit site plan identifying the property boundaries and footprints of existing and proposed (if applicable) buildings with distances from adjacent properties and location of proposed work. Include construction plans illustrating the proposed work.

5. Historical Documentation

Submit any historical documents (i.e. photographs, articles) on the subject property that will assist the City to understand the application.

6. Additional Studies

Submit any additional technical cultural heritage studies that are relevant to the proposed alteration, if required.

Cultural Heritage Landscapes

For proposed alterations to designated cultural heritage landscapes, please contact the Heritage Planner for the required supporting documentation.

Fees

Minor Work: **\$406**

Definition: Minor alterations are defined as small additions, repairs or similar changes. Generally, they do not impact the identified heritage attributes of a property.

Major Work: **\$3,480**

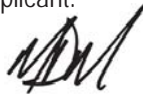
Definition: Major applications alter or remove identified heritage attributes of a property. This includes the relocation of a structure to a different part of the property, the dismantling of a structure to be incorporated within a new structure, an addition to an existing heritage structure, and any changes affecting the legal description of the property as contained in the designation by-law.

Payments can be made via a cheque made out to the City of Richmond Hill Planning and Infrastructure.

Declaration

Declaration: I Mike McCallum of the City/Town of Richmond Hill solemnly declare that I am the Owner ☐ or the Authorized agent ☒ of the above named designated property and that all the information and statements provided in this application form and on the attached drawings and specifications are to the best of my knowledge and belief true and I make this Solemn Declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath, and by virtue of the Canadian Evidence Act.

Signature of applicant:



Date:

November 4, 2022

The personal information of this form is collected under the legal authority of Section 33(2) and Section 42(2) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The information will be used for the purposes of administering the heritage permit application and ensuring appropriate service of notice of receipt under Section 33(3) and Section 42(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. If you have any questions about this collection of personal information, please contact the Heritage and Urban Design Planner, Pamela Vega, at 905-771-5529.



Planning & Infrastructure Department
Infrastructure Delivery Services

HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATION

Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Park
Heritage Permit Application - MUP and Nature Trail

Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Park Multi-Use Path and Nature Trail

Introduction

The Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Park is a 42 hectares (110 acres) property located centrally within the City of Richmond Hill generally bounded by Bayview Avenue to the east, the CN rail line to the west, 16th Avenue to the south and Hillsview Drive to the north. The City acquired this portion of the DDO Lands to preserve a majority of the natural, landscape and cultural heritage of the DDO Lands for public use, see Figure 1.

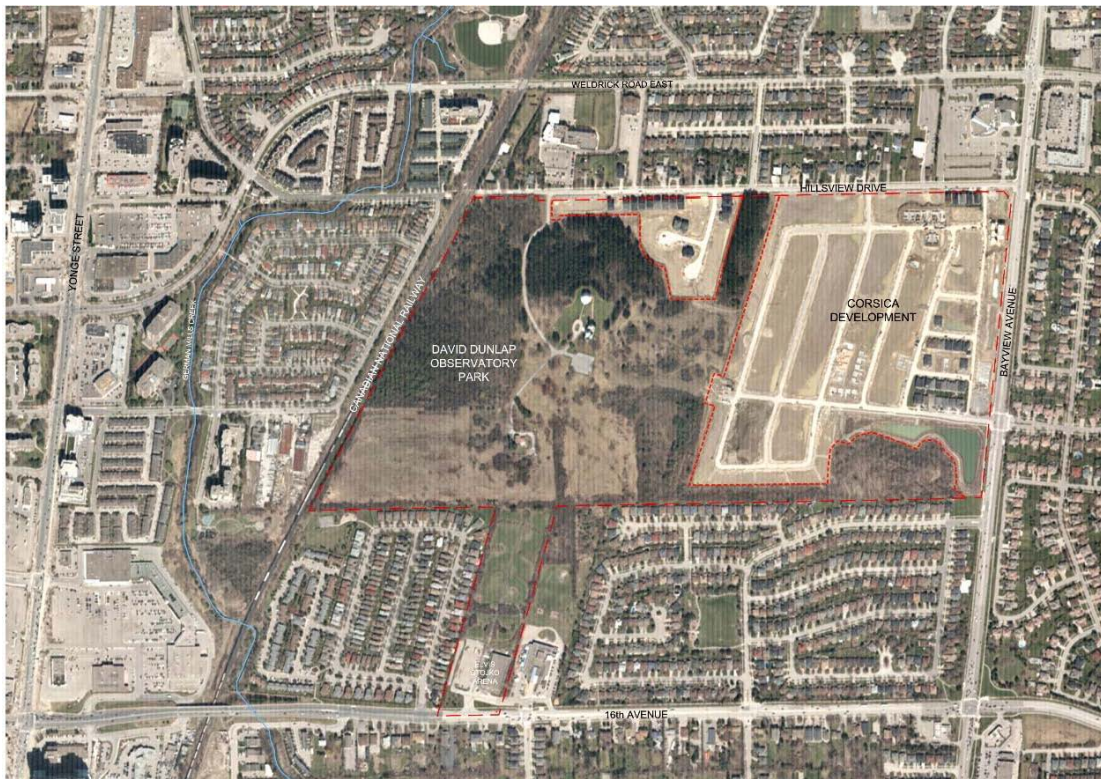


Figure 1: Location Map - David Dunlap Observatory Park

The RHDDO lands holds a storied position within Richmond Hill and has brought identity to the City through the astronomical research conducted by the University of Toronto from the 1930's through to the 2000's. In addition to the observatory, the lands have represented an undeveloped oasis within Richmond Hill's urban landscape and have provided informal passive recreation opportunities for City residents for many decades.

On September 29, 2009, Council designated the Richmond Hill David Dunlap Observatory Property under By-law 100-09 as a "property of cultural heritage value or interest" under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 018, as amended.

Council approved the Conservation Management Plan for the RHDDO property on January 24, 2011. The Conservation Management Plan provides a means to assess any applications to alter heritage features within the RHDDO property that are designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. The Conservation Management Plan also sets out short, medium and long term maintenance and conservation treatments for the identified heritage attributes

The RHDDO Park Master Plan sets out the vision for the future enhancement, management and programming for the DDO Park a National Historic Site of Canada. The Master Plan established a multiyear phased plan for the creation of David Dunlap Observatory Park, a unique and important destination park that will serve the residents of Richmond Hill and attracts visitors from across the GTA, see figure 2. The Master Plan creates a clear identity for the park, rooted in the site's heritage. The implementation of the Master Plan has commenced with various projects including Woodlot Restoration, Restoration of the Observatory and Administration Buildings and Interim Trails.



Figure 2: Master Plan David Dunlap Observatory Park

Scope of Work

The purpose of this Heritage Permit Application is for construction RHDDO Assignment 2 Multi-use Path and Nature Trails. This project is the implementation of segments of additional trails as shown on Figure 3.

The additional trail provides residents the opportunity to enjoy more of the natural beauty of this park in the early stages of the park implementation. Enabling connectivity to nature and history strengthens our local community as residents and visitors can now traverse formerly inaccessible areas of the David Dunlap Observatory site. The trails systems will be expanded in the future along with the conversion of the interim trails to permanent trails to increase the health and wellbeing of residents, preserve green spaces and natural features, and provide greater access to the park as more amenities are built.



Figure 3: Multi-Use Path and Nature Trail

Multi-use Trails

The Multi-Use Path (MUP) shown in red on the diagram provides a connection from Hillsview Drive to the main north south trail within RHDDO. This segment of trail is 3.0m wide, 390m long and constructed of asphalt to accommodate pedestrian, cyclist and other active transportation users.

The MUP requires a 1.0m clear zone on both sides of the trail to provide an unobstructed safety buffer for the trail users, refer to Figure 4.0. The slopes of the MUP will range from 2.0% to 8.0% which are within the City Standard for off road MUP's. The higher slopes are used in relatively short segments of the trail to help reduce the extent of grading and tree removal.

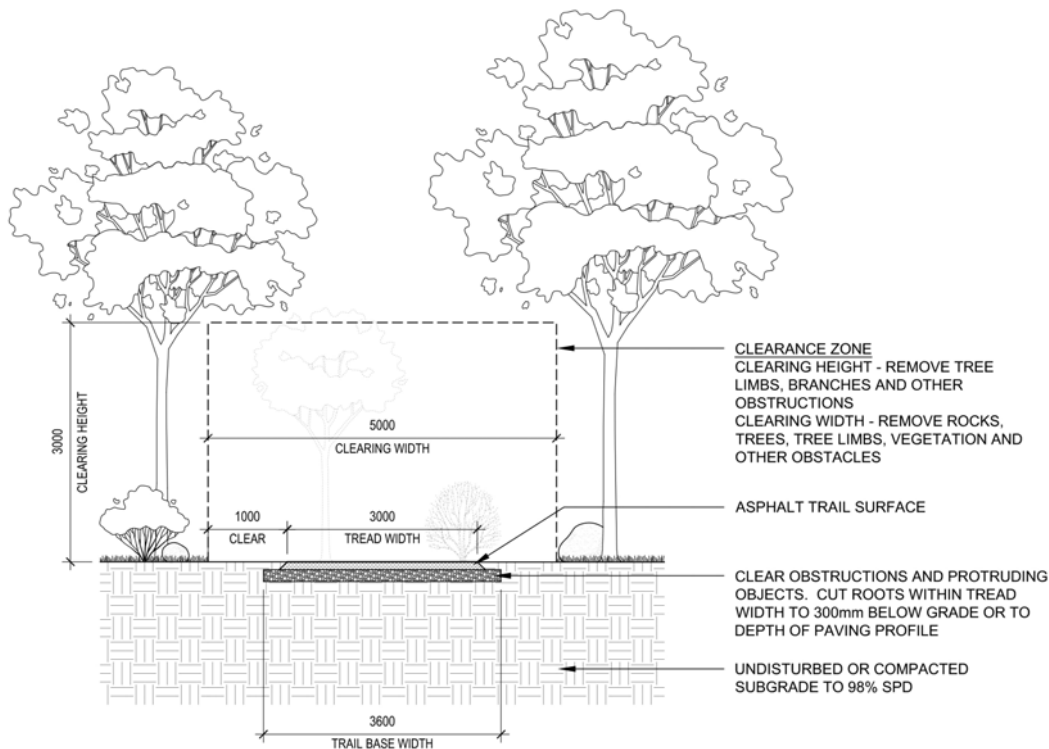


Figure 4: MUP Trail Section

Nature Trails

There are two segments of nature trails shown in yellow and purple on the diagram. The nature trail shown in yellow provides a connection through the wooded area from the eastern side of RHDDO by the future CN Rail Overpass to the northeastern part of RHDDO. This nature trail is 2.4m wide, 810m long and constructed of crushed granite chip, refer to figure 5.

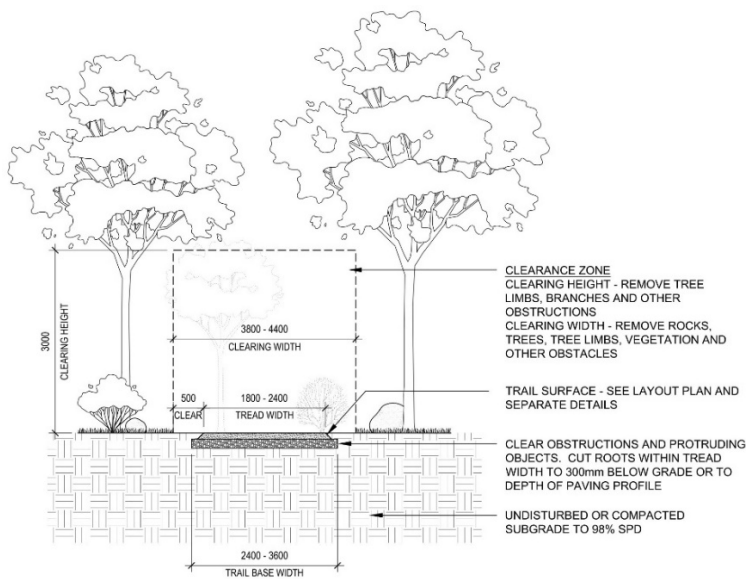


Figure 5: Granite Chip Trail Section

The nature trail shown in purple is a discovery loop to offer users a different experience through the wooded area. This portion of trail is 1.5m wide, 135m long and constructed of wood chips, refer to figure 6.

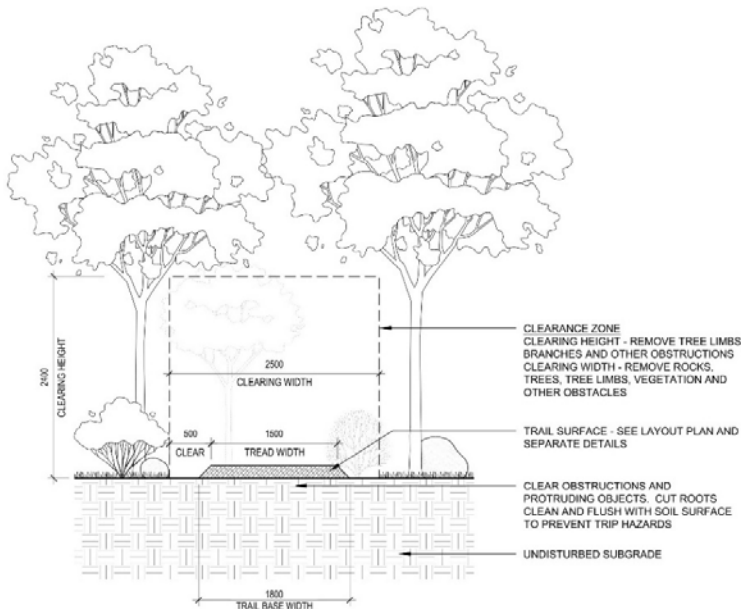


Figure 6: Wood Chip Trail Section

The nature trails constructed of granite and wood chips have 0.5m clear zone of both sides of the trail to provide an unobstructed safety buffer for trails users and to minimize tree removal. The slopes of the nature granite chip and wood chip nature trails range from 1.5 to 6.7%.

The trail types chosen are design for pedestrian use in an ecologically sensitive area with the surfacing type determined by the site conditions and anticipated uses. These trails offer a more challenging route for individuals looking for a more adventurous experience.

Tree Removal and Grading

The tree removal and grading was explored during the design stage to minimize impact of construction trails will have on this heritage feature of the DDO. Approaches taken were the following;

- ▮ Raised slope of portions of the trail to reduce the extent of grading and tree removal.
- ▮ Reduce width of MUP from 4.0m to 3.0m and reduced width of wooded trail from 1.8m to 1.5m
- ▮ Provided clear zone for granite chip nature trail from 1.0m to 0.5m
- ▮ Segment of the trail from the proposed MUP to the Donalda Drive is curving rather than the smooth arc shown in the master plan to minimize the extent of grading in this location. If maintain the Master Plan alignment in this location would require additional tree removal.

Signage

Temporary signs will be installed as part of the Nature Trail construction. The design of the signs follow the City's Park Signage Standards and are installed on wood posts as they will be replaced with permanent signs as part of a future project. The permanent sign design will be customized to fit with the theme and branding of the RHDDO.

The 'Trail Entrance Signage' will be installed at each end of the MUP and the 'Trail Intersection Signs' will be installed at the intersection between the MUP and the granite chip trail and at the connections between the granite chip nature trail and the entrance drive and granite chip nature trail and the existing temporary trails.

The signs include information on the trail surfacing, slope, distance, and skill level, location of facilities and regulatory information. See figure 7 and 8 for sign design.

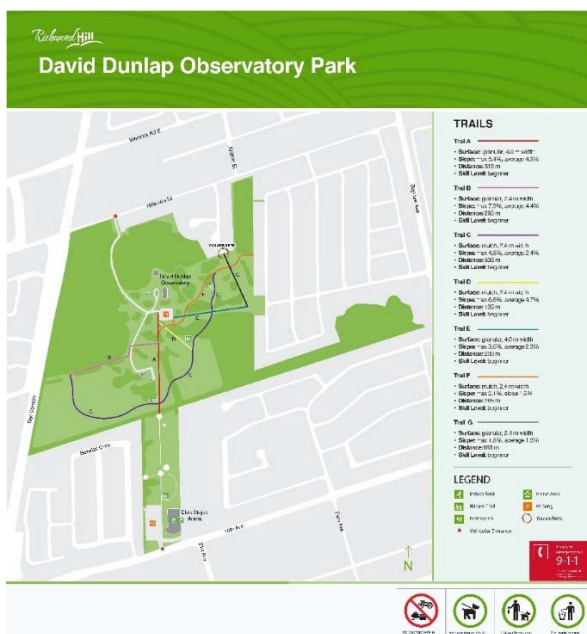


Figure 7: Trail Entrance Sign



Figure 8: Trail Intersection Sign



Impact on Heritage Features

The heritage feature of the David Dunlap Observatory impacted by the construction of the trails is the Observatory backdrop plantation and wooded area which is one of the vegetation components that contribute to the cultural landscape of the DDO. The impact to this heritage feature is site grading and tree removal.

As mention earlier one of the goals of the trail layout and site grading design was to minimize the impact as much as possible to this heritage feature while providing the trails from the approved Master Plan.

The trails associated with this heritage permit application will improve connectivity to the DDO, provide additional recreational opportunities and helps to preserve this heritage feature while providing users with access to use and enjoy it.

Existing Conditions Photos



MUP Alignment



Trail Connection with Interim Trail



Granite Chip Trail through Coniferous Trees



Trail Connection with Donalda Drive

Appendix B: Figure 16 from the David Dunlap Observatory Master Plan



Figure 16 - Access and Circulation