



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	August 12, 2015
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Stoney Creek Rugby Club – Construction of New Athletic Field at Heritage Green Sports Park (CES15038) (Ward 9) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Ward 9
PREPARED BY:	Bryan Ozorio 905-546-2424 ext. 7017
SUBMITTED BY:	Joe-Anne Priel General Manager Community & Emergency Services Department
SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

At its meeting of September 24, 2014 Council approved the following motion:

- (a) That staff be directed to enter into negotiations with the Stoney Creek Rugby Club and the Heritage Green Community Trust to partner on the construction of a new athletic field to be located at Heritage Green Sports Park; and,
- (b) That staff be directed to report back to the Emergency and Community Services Committee following negotiations.

Information:

The Stoney Creek Rugby Club was displaced from its home field at Saltfleet District High School in 2014 when the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) began major renovations to the high school's playing fields. The displacement facilitated discussions between the previous Ward 9 Councillor and the Rugby Club about establishing a new permanent home field for the Rugby Club in Heritage Green Sports Park with the possible financial assistance of the Heritage Green Community Trust. Formal direction to enter into negotiations was given to staff through the Council motion of September 24, 2014.

Throughout the fall of 2014 and winter of 2015, City Wide Services staff, Recreation Division and Landscape Architectural Services (LAS) staff, Public Works Department, met with representatives from the Stoney Creek Rugby Club and Heritage Green Community Trust to discuss options for the construction of a rugby pitch and related amenities in the Heritage Green Sports Park. Options and high level designs were developed by LAS. These options ranged from the construction of the rugby field with a full clubhouse and storage area to the construction of just a field.

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The premise of the discussions was that the field and related amenities (if any) would be built with funds from the Rugby Club and from the Heritage Green Trust. The City would provide the infrastructure required to support the new field (e.g. new walkways, new parking lot, tree planting) and would expedite work that needed to be done in the park (e.g. extension of road out of park into Paramount subdivision). LAS identified the City's anticipated costs as approximately \$1.7M.

Building options were eventually narrowed to reduce total costs where necessary without compromising the quality of the field. The final option considered would have included construction costs for the basic installation of a field (site grading, rugby field surface and drainage profile installation) and a small storage building. Costs for this construction, to be covered by the Rugby Club and Heritage Green Trust, were estimated at approximately \$1.0M.

After careful consideration the Stoney Creek Rugby Club decided not to proceed with the project. The proposed option was not attractive to the Rugby Club given that it would have demanded a large investment for a field that the Rugby Club would not ultimately own or operate. They have decided to pursue other options that include purchasing land themselves for their home field that would be owned and operated by the Rugby Club.

Staff have indicated to the Stoney Creek Rugby Club and the Heritage Green Community Trust that they are prepared to work with them in the future if other opportunities to partner evolve in Heritage Green Sports Park.