

From: clerk@hamilton.ca
To: [Carson, Katie](#); [Kolar, Loren](#)
Subject: FW: Stadium Precinct Park
Date: May 25, 2021 9:09:26 AM

Magda Green

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From: jfioravanti jfioravanti [REDACTED]
Sent: May 24, 2021 2:58 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Stadium Precinct Park

Dear Sir/Madam:

I understand that the site of the Old Dominion Glass is to become a park, currently named the Stadium Precinct Park. I understand that the park will be called The Brightside Park.

Why Brightside?

Brightside was a thriving community back in the 1920's to 1970's, from the CNR tracks to the Steel company of Canada and Wilcox St. to Plymouth Ave. It took the shape of a parallelogram. The area had a lot of history as has been written. The park would commemorate the people who settled there and raised families over the years, from 1920 to 1970. During the late 50's, 60's and 70's many of the homes were being bought up and torn down for industrial parking.

The parents and people in the area worked hard in nearby factories (Stelco, Dofasco. P & G, Dominion Glass, Harvester etc.) in the early years so the young men and women would pursue their education and become successful in the various professions such as doctors, lawyers, teachers, nurses, government officials, company executives, secretaries, business owners etc. Also included in this group were the athletes who made it professionally in many sports. Not excluded, were the housewives who stayed home to cook, clean, did laundry and kept the children safe and happy

The park needs to have information, plaques or notices of why the park is called "The Brightside Park". The younger generation visiting the park should have some idea of the people who lived in Brightside and how they lived. For example, if a skating pad or rink is included, it can be called "Laylaws" (Laidlaw), the skating pond that was frequented near Birmingham St. near the CNR tracks. When the young people were growing up they played sports in any small area that was called a field, which was located between Leeds St. and Birmingham St.

We need to mention why it is called "The Brightside Park". In 1977 a Brightside

Reunion was held with over 1,000 attending. In 1983 another Brightside reunion was held with about 800 to 900 people and a Reunion booklet was produced. It has pictures and stories of Brightside over the years. If the booklet was displayed, i am sure it would give the visitors some insight into what Brightside was about.

Another thing that can be included are street names. One or two of the laneways can be given the old street names from Brightside like (Leeds, Lancaster, Gage, etc.) There needs to be some association with the park and Brightside or it would not mean anything to the younger generation.

These are a few ideas that I have listed. I believe the park and green space for this part of Hamilton is wonderful, and it would complement Tim Horton's Field and Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre as a start.

Thank You for accepting some notes and ideas about "The Brightside Park"

My name is John Fioravanti

[REDACTED]

I am 85 years old. My wife Mary is 84.

We were both born in Brightside and lived in Hamilton until 3 years ago. We still consider ourselves Hamiltonians and Brightsiders!