



8.2.1

December 16, 2010

Dear Mayor Bratina:

It was with interest that Trustees read the recent article in *The Hamilton Spectator* about the potential review of parkland dedication fees by the Planning Committee of the City of Hamilton. The Board of Trustees of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board has instructed me to write to the City of Hamilton to encourage the consideration of the March 2005 request from HWDSB to add school boards to its definition of exempted institutions.

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board school playgrounds and fields are available for community use after school hours, and any play structures, soccer fields and baseball diamonds are enjoyed as public space by our community.

Currently, the City of Hamilton Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-lieu of Parkland by-law "requires as a condition of development or redevelopment, the conveyance of land for park or other public recreational purpose, or cash-in-lieu of such parkland or a combination of each" (pursuant to the Municipal Planning Act). It also defines institutional use as "the use of lands for a place of worship, college, or university, cemetery, mausoleum, columbarium or crematorium or other charitable, nonprofit uses as may be deemed by Council."

Since 2003, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board has paid over \$607,000 in parkland dedication fees to the value of the lands required to be conveyed for the building of new schools, while other educational institutions, such as colleges and universities, are exempted from these fees. This is in spite of the fact that Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board lands are used for public recreational facilities.

We look forward to the discussion at the City of Hamilton on the parkland dedication fees and a resolution on this issue. The current practice of payment for parklands is a hardship when the building of schools is paid for from the public purse and the Board willingly shares its fields and playgrounds with the municipality.

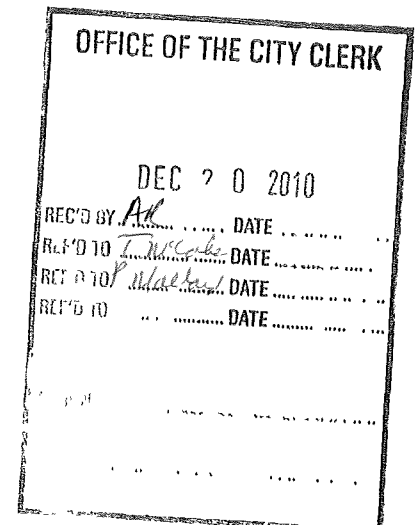
Sincerely,

Judith Bishop

Chair

Attach: Parkland Dedication Motion, March 21 2005

Cc: Councilor Pasuta, Chair of Planning Committee
Alexandra Rawlings, Co-Ordinator of Planning Committee



Parkland Dedication Fees – Approved at Board, March 21 2005

It was moved by J. Bishop, seconded by I Thompson [motion considered after obtaining a two-thirds majority vote]

Whereas

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School may allow undeveloped land it owns, such as at Broughton, to be used as a park for informal use by the public;

And

Whereas

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board's school playgrounds are available for community use after school hours, and any play structures, soccer fields and baseball pitches are enjoyed by all the schools' community as public park space in addition to municipal parks,

And

Whereas the City of Hamilton Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-lieu of Parkland By law 2003 *"requires as a condition of development or redevelopment, the conveyance of land for park or other public recreational purpose, or cash-in-lieu of such parkland or a combination of each"*(pursuant to the Municipal Planning Act)

And

Whereas

The City Of Hamilton Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-lieu of Parkland By law exempts developed or redeveloped land proposed for institutional and or/industrial uses, and defines institutional use as meaning *the use of lands for a place of worship, college, or university, cemetery, mausoleum, columbarium or crematorium or other charitable, non profit uses as may be deemed by Council.*

And

Whereas

The Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is being charged the payment of money to the value of the lands required to be conveyed for the building of new schools, while other educational institutions, such as the College and the University, are exempted,

And

Whereas

The payment of funds for parkland is a hardship when the building of schools is paid for from the public purse, and the Board is willing to share its playgrounds with the municipality

Be It Resolved

That the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board petition the City of Hamilton to have district school boards added to its definition of institutions that are exempted from the Parkland Dedication and Cash-in-lieu of Parkland By-law

CARRIED, 10 IN FAVOUR, 1 ABSTENTION The student trustee voted in favour