

## Open Space Policies<sup>⊕</sup>:

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### Policy OPS-1

*Council shall adopt the following definition of “open space”: Open space is any land used for public recreational purposes, whether active or passive recreation, and includes parks, playgrounds, trails, playing fields and outdoor sports facilities, look-offs/viewpoints, beaches, areas of significant historical or archeological value, and natural areas including conservation areas, special habitats and ecologically significant areas.*

- as per: East Hants Open Space Plan, page 14.

### Policy OPS – 2

*Council shall adopt a park classification system which includes neighbourhood parks, community parks, regional parks, urban greenspace, conservation areas and heritage spaces, as described in MPS Policy 12-2.*

### Policy OSP – 3

Council shall use the following as guiding documents for setting priorities for Open Space Fund expenditures: EH Open Space Plan (1999), EH Official Community Plan (2000) and EH Strategic Recreation Plan (1998).

### Policy OSP – 4

Council shall create an Open Space Reserve Fund with three categories: ‘cash-in-lieu’, ‘special projects’ and ‘interest’. Council shall have the ability to acquire and channel open space funds through the following five mean (see also Figure 1):

- a) cash-in-lieu contributions under the SUB, 50% of which will go into the ‘cash-in-lieu’ category and the other 50% of which will go into the ‘special projects’ category;
- b) interest collected on the principal of the cash-in-lieu contributions will go into the ‘interest’ category;
- c) cash from the sale of Municipal-owned lands acquired through the subdivision by-law determined by Council to be no longer needed for Open Space purposes, and interest on same will go into the ‘cash-in-lieu’ category;
- d) annual budget allocation to Open Space Fund Reserve will go into the ‘special projects’ category’;

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<sup>⊕</sup> September 2002, Hilary Paquet report to Leisure Services Committee.

- e) financial donations for parks, open space and similar public recreational purposes will be directed as per the request; unspecified financial donations and interest on same will go into the 'special projects' category.

#### Policy OSP – 5

Council shall adopt a strategy for promoting the receipt of land and cash donations for open space and similar public recreational purposes.

#### Policy OSP – 6

Council shall fund Open Space projects, as per MPS policy 12-2, from the three open space reserve fund categories as follows (see also figure 1):

- a) **cash-in-lieu** funds shall be used for land acquisition and capital improvements for community open space, i.e., neighbourhood parks, community parks and urban greenspace, in any zoned areas of the municipality;
- b) **interest funds** (i.e., interest on cash-in-lieu contributions under the SUB) shall be used for operation and maintenance costs of parks, playgrounds and similar public purposes;
- c) **special projects** funds shall be used for land acquisition and capital improvements for open space of municipal-wide significance, i.e., regional parks, conservation areas and heritage spaces.

### OPEN SPACE

CS02(165)

Linda Atkinson, Director of Leisure Services, referred the Committee to the Open Space report dated November 28, 2002, which was attached to the agenda and circulated to all members of the committee, as well as correspondence dated November 28, 2002 to Corporate Services from Connie Nolan regarding the Open Space Report. The correspondence provides the Director's comments related to the use of Reserve Funds as outlined in the report.

Hilary Paquet, Open Space Coordinator, made a presentation to the Committee, which highlighted the Policy recommendations.

Councillor Canavan complimented staff on their presentation and how well it shows the vision and direction of the Department.

Staff was directed to bring this report back to the next meeting of this Committee for final decision. This was agreed by the Committee and will be placed on the January Executive Committee agenda.

C03(18) **Open Space**

On the motion of Councillors Patterson and Goodine, ***it was*** Brown ***passed to adopt the Open Space Report as presented.*** Question called. ***MOTION CARRIED.***

