Minute No. 55
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – November 9, 2021

Item No. 3 Establishment of a Green Space Corridor North of Inkster Boulevard

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

1. That the Recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service not be concurred in.

2. That the Greenspace Corridor in North West Winnipeg be recommended for inclusion into the thousand acres of green space as outlined in the Our Winnipeg 2045 Plan.

3. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the SPC on PCSP following the adoption Our Winnipeg 2045 by the Province of Manitoba.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to fulfill the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – November 9, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Rollins,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 17, 2021, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On November 9, 2021, the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks recommended to the Executive Policy Committee and Council:

1. That the Recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service not be concurred in.

2. That the Greenspace Corridor in North West Winnipeg be recommended for inclusion into the thousand acres of green space as outlined in the Our Winnipeg 2045 Plan.

3. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back to the SPC on PCSP following the adoption Our Winnipeg 2045 by the Province of Manitoba.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to fulfill the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – November 9, 2021

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On April 29, 2021, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks and adopted the following:

1. That the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 180 days the following:

    A. Results of consultations with the Rural Municipality of Rosser and CentrePort Canada Inc. on the feasibility of establishing a Green Space Corridor north of Inkster Boulevard, bordered by Klimpke Road to the west, and including Players Golf Course, and Little Mountain Park.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing. **Report – Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – November 9, 2021**

On March 25, 2021, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks:

Moved by Councillor Mayes,
Seconded by Councillor Sharma,

WHEREAS Little Mountain Park is located within the Rural Municipality of Rosser, and owned by the City of Winnipeg;

AND WHEREAS Little Mountain Park contains forest trails, an off-leash dog park area, as well as other park amenities;

AND WHEREAS the north west quadrant of the City has undergone considerable development in the past decade, adding large quantities of residential housing stock to the City's inventory;

AND WHRERAS there will be increased demand for green space and park amenities over the coming years.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to report back within 180 days the following:

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

1. Results of consultations with the Rural Municipality of Rosser and CentrePort Canada Inc. on the feasibility of establishing a Green Space Corridor north of Inkster Boulevard, bordered by Klimpke Road to the west, and including Players Golf Course, and Little Mountain Park.

2. Feasibility of including North Quarry, north of Little Mountain Park, as a protected wildlife refuge within the Green Space Corridor.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Establishment of a Green Space Corridor North of Inkster Boulevard

Critical Path: Standing Policy Committee on Protection, Community Services and Parks – Executive Policy Committee – Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
D. Domke	J. Berezowsky	N/A	M. Jack

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Lands south of Little Mountain Park to Inkster Boulevard are outside of the boundaries of the City of Winnipeg in the Rural Municipality of Rosser. The area is part of the Inland Port Special Planning Area established under the Planning Amendment Act by the Province of Manitoba. The lands in question are privately owned, and contain some fragmented and remnant portions of forest (see Appendix 1).

The Public Service discussed the idea of a Green Corridor in this area, and determined that any land acquisition should also connect with Winnipeg's Active Transportation system that presently terminates on Inkster Boulevard at Inksbrook Drive. While a detailed estimate to complete this pathway has not been completed, the costs involved would be significant. Moreover, the extension of this active transportation pathway is not a priority for the Public Service at this time.

Similarly, the acquisition of additional park lands in this particular area was determined not to be a priority by the Public Service. There are a number of other significant natural area lands within the City that should be acquired first.

The Rural Municipality of Rosser and CentrePort Canada Inc. were both consulted with regards to establishing this Green Space Corridor. Since the acquisition of private lands is involved in this matter, both organizations feel is it the responsibility of the City of Winnipeg to acquire these lands if they deem it to be a priority. At the same time, both organizations are supportive of and/or are considering Active Transportation initiatives in the Inland Port Special Planning Area in general.

The Public Service does not see the acquisition of these lands or the connection to Winnipeg's Active Transportation System as a priority. If the Committee wishes to pursue this matter further, then the Public Service will contact the private property owners and ask permission to survey the natural areas in detail, and determine if they are interested in selling these properties.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report be received as information.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On April 29, 2021, Council requested that a report on consultations with the Rural Municipality of Rosser and CentrePort Canada Inc. on the feasibility of Establishing a Green Space Corridor north of Inkster Blvd, bordered by Klimpke Road to the West and including Player's Golf Course, and Little Mountain Park.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

As this report is for informational purposes only, there are no implications.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

Lands south of Little Mountain Park to Inkster Boulevard are outside of the boundaries of the City of Winnipeg in the Rural Municipality of Rosser. The area is part of the Inland Port Special Planning Area established under the Planning Amendment Act by the Province of Manitoba. It is administered by the Inland Port Special Planning Authority which includes the Rural Municipality of Rosser, CentrePort Canada, the Winnipeg Airports Authority, the Province of Manitoba, and the City of Winnipeg.

The specific lands in question are privately owned, and contain some fragmented and remnant portions of forest (see Appendix 1). The condition of these forests has not been surveyed in detail, however, the forest appears to be in fair condition with probable events of agricultural-related disturbance throughout its history.

One recent Council approved motion supports the acquisition of additional park lands. On June 24, 2021, as part of the debate on Our Winnipeg 2045 Plan, Council approved a direction (1. A. iv.) that states:

> *"Include a commitment to increasing the public reserve land within the City of Winnipeg by taking steps to add another 1,000 acres of public park space in addition to the already existing public reserve lands."*

Other guiding documents that support acquisition of additional lands for parks, include the Complete Communities (Draft), Parks Strategy (Draft), Climate Action Plan, and Ecologically Significant Lands Strategy and Policy (assuming a vegetation analysis proves these areas as being worthy of preservation).

The Public Service discussed the idea of a Green Corridor in this area, and determined that any land acquisition should also connect with Winnipeg's Active Transportation system that presently terminates on Inkster Boulevard at Inksbrook Drive. While a detailed estimate to complete this pathway has not been completed, the costs involved would be significant. Moreover, the extension of this active transportation pathway is not a priority for the Public Service at this time.

Similarly, the acquisition of additional park lands in this particular area was determined not to be a priority by the Public Service. There are a number of other significant natural area lands within the City limits that should be acquired first.

The Rural Municipality of Rosser and CentrePort Canada Inc. were both consulted with regards to establishing this Green Space Corridor. Since the acquisition of private lands is involved in this matter, both organizations feel is it the responsibility of the City of Winnipeg to acquire these lands if they deem it to be a priority. At the same time, both organizations are supportive of and/or are considering Active Transportation initiatives in the Inland Port Special Planning Area.

In summary, the Public Service does not see the acquisition of these lands as a priority. If Council wishes to pursue this matter further, then the Public Service will contact the private property owners and ask permission to survey the natural areas in detail, and determine if they are interested in selling these properties.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: October 13, 2021

Project Name:

Establishment of a Green Space Corridor North of Inkster Boulevard

COMMENTS:

There is no financial impact associated with the recommendation of this report.

"signed by J. Ruby, CPA, CA"
J. Ruby, CPA, CA
Manager of Finance & Administration

CONSULTATION

This report has been prepared in consultation with:

- Planning Property and Development, Real Estate and Urban Design

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

- **3.16 Optimize Facility Access** – Maximize the use of existing municipal assets to promote recreation, community development, and social interaction, while optimizing equitable access, infrastructure reinvestments, service delivery methods and resource management.

- **4.11 Equitable Service Access** – Prioritize equitable access to recreation and parks systems, services, and infrastructure, in order to: enable active living; connect people and nature; create supportive environments; build community capacity; and achieve desired health outcomes, with a focus on children and youth.

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Public Works
Division: Parks and Open Space
Prepared by: D. Domke, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Date: October 18, 2021

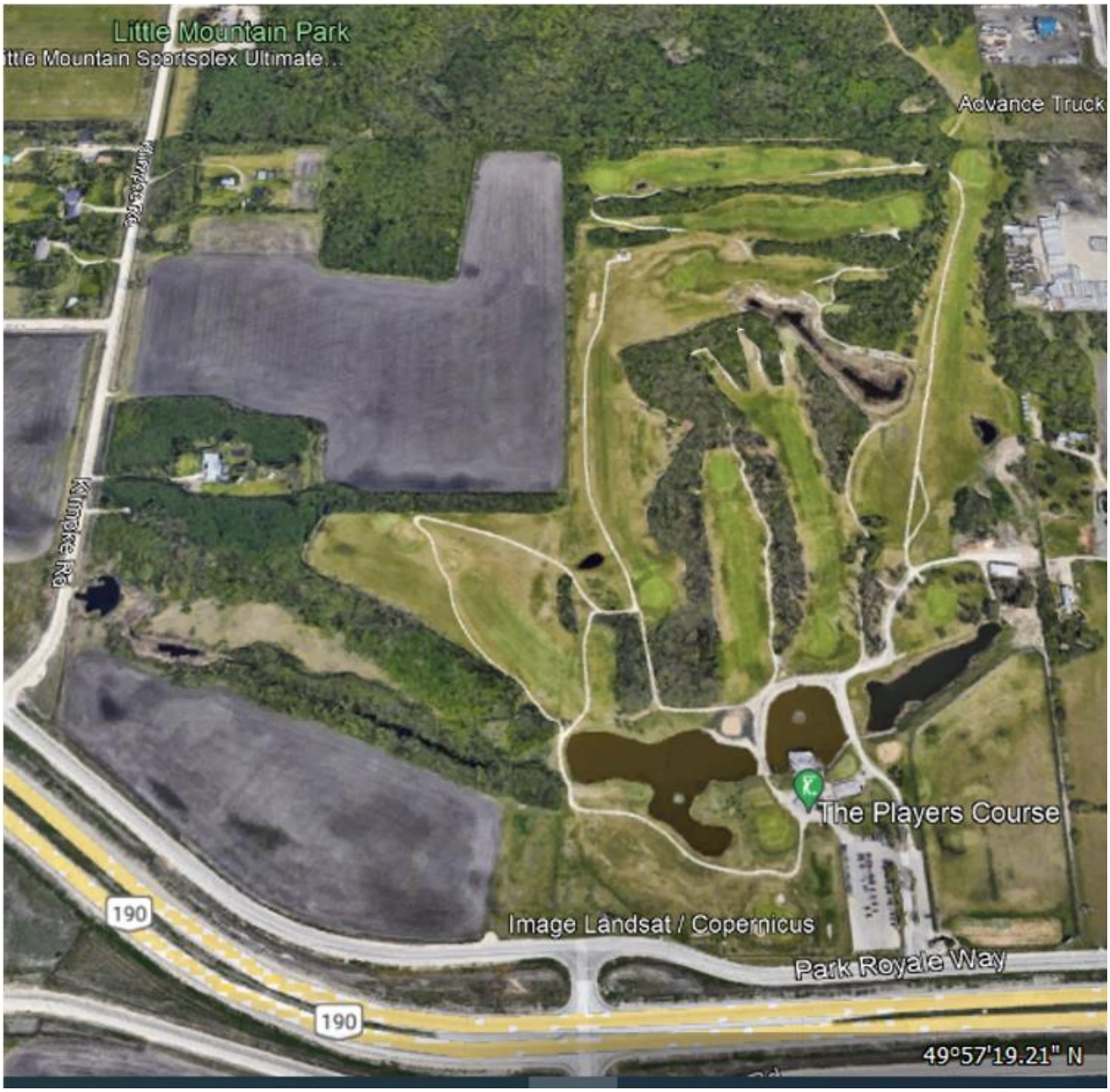
Attachment: Appendix 1: Area Map

Appendix 1: Area Map



See larger scale image below

W limit of Inkster AT path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