

**April 26 2022 motion re: Parkland Dedication Bylaw Review and Replacement
(GCA Parks Committee)**

WHEREAS a fundamental goal of the Glebe Community Association is that city-designated park land (per capita) [2 hectares per 1,000 residents] (not including NCC or school board held lands) be available as equally to the residents of a necessarily more densely populated downtown and inner core as it is to anyone else in the city; and

WHEREAS the reason for the City's current Parkland Dedication By-law Review and Replacement process is because of a provincial government requirement that municipalities put in place a new parkland dedication bylaw by September 18, 2022 in order to preserve the use of a formula for calculating parkland allocation requirements that is tied to the number of dwelling units created (as is the current standard set by the City of Ottawa's Official Plan and Parks and Recreation Master Plan); and

WHEREAS without a new parkland dedication bylaw, parkland requirements would be calculated based on a percentage of the area of the property being developed, and therefore make parkland less available to the residents of a necessarily more densely populated downtown and inner core; and

WHEREAS it follows that any new units added to the downtown/inner core, including those built by non-for-profit affordable housing initiatives, in whatever fashion (both building permits for additional units – as is the practice in other major Ontario municipalities – and development applications); and mixed use (residential-commercial) buildings, adhere to a clear (provincial and/or municipal) requirement/formula for hectares per-capita of new parkland; or, alternatively, generate: dollars cash-in-lieu (CIL) of new city-owned parks from the builders; or, funds from the City to pay for the required new city-owned parkland per capita – particularly those built by/as non-for-profit affordable housing initiatives; and

WHEREAS current deficiencies of parkland per capita in the urban core (or, as needs be, any other ward) could be addressed in the updated Parkland Dedication By-law through the designation of "special districts" that should justifiably receive 100% of CILP (rather than the current 60/40% local ward/citywide split); and

WHEREAS it is reasonable (in order to simplify the process) that calculations for required city-owned parkland per capita emanating from mix use (residential-commercial) building permits and development applications be based on whichever is the predominant usage, as long as the end result is that the amount of parkland created (or CILP received) is consistent with the city-designated park land (per capita) goal; and

WHEREAS the GCA is encouraged that City staff remain open to such stakeholder input from the community as they and their consultants (Watson & Associates) continue their preparation of the report scheduled to go to committee in May; and

WHEREAS the GCA is encouraged that in their considerations, the city and its consultants are taking into account data which demonstrates the current deficiencies in different areas of the city, particularly the downtown core and neighbouring communities, vis-à-vis parkland per-capita and the standards of the Official Plan and the Parks & Recreation Master Plan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the GCA provides this input, as delineated above, to the City and its consultants for their consideration as they prepare their recommendations on the Parkland Dedication By-law Review and Replacement to the Planning Committee in May, in addition to the input already provided by the GCA Parks Committee.