

Follow-up on Lake Ontario Park Master Plan Public Meeting held on June 23, 2009 (details as provided by an official with the City):

1. The Lake Ontario Park Master Plan will be going to Kingston City Council for approval on July 14, 2009. The related written report is not yet available.
2. The Master Plan matches up with the key principles of the Phase 1 Visioning exercise: Lake Ontario Park will be maintained and enhanced as publicly owned parkland in support of its role as one of Kingston's primary waterfront open spaces.

Park Planning Principles

The advisory group and survey respondents also strongly endorsed the following principles for realizing this vision:

- *Waterfront access will be fostered and the waterfront conserved and rehabilitated;*
- *The park will provide facilities suitable for both local and regional residents as well as visitors;*
- *The contrast between the parks two main character areas of tableland and waterfront will be celebrated;*
- *The park will remain accessible to people of all means and backgrounds;*
- *Vestiges of past uses will be conserved and interpreted; (note - although not primary function)*
- *All improvements to the park will support environmental enhancement through habitat restoration and sustainable development practices;*
- *Revenue generating uses should be considered in support of ongoing park operation and improvement, but not as a primary focus; and*
- *In determining appropriate use for the park, priority should be given to:*
 - *family activities*
 - *cultural/community activities*
 - *activities that promote enjoyment of the natural environment.*

3. The Master Plan is an overall concept. Once approved, the next stage of implementation (detailed design) will include taking the detailed topographic survey and tree inventory that has been done and fitting the proposed functions within the park while disturbing as few of the trees as possible. The next stage also requires the city to consult and get approvals through the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and TC (TC is?) for any shoreline works including the removal of the asphalt and bulkhead to allow the shoreline to return to a natural state.

4. The consultant had a structural engineer look at the existing buildings on site and based on the analysis and projected lifespan, it was concluded that the majority of them should come down and be replaced by fewer but more energy efficient/LEED buildings. There may be an architectural interest to save the round washrooms.

5. The cost of implementing the Master Plan is projected to be \$4.3 million

which is being discussed as part of the 2009-2010 Capital Budget (although there was a resolution of Council October 21, 2008 " THAT the budgeted amount for item No 21, Lake Ontario Park Upgrades, as identified in the Major Projects Document, dated September 22, 2008, be revised to reflect \$500,000 in 2009, \$2,000,000 in 2010, and \$2,000,000 in 2011, \$2,000,000 in 2012 and \$2,000,000 in 2013. " This is a total of \$8,500,000. which is almost double the projected amount noted by the consultant of \$4.3 Millon).

6. While the work progresses, portions of the park may be off limits but the entire park will not be closed. This can be accommodated by staging the construction.

7. The intent is to make the park better and naturalize everything below the tablelands and revisit the existing flat tableland which has remnants of past uses such as the Midway/mini-putt and old and uninspired play areas. Key programmable activity areas (play area, pavilion/washrooms/ storm pond-rink) are consolidated closer to the east limit of the site allowing the majority of the park to function as is- a mix of open and treed spaces with a natural shoreline.