Dundas District Innovation Group

July 11 2007 - Re: Field, 397 King St West, Dundas

Dear Mayor Eisenberger and City Councillors,
Tonight you are hearing a motion from Councillor Russ Powers requesting that the city make a bona fide offer to the Hamilton Wentworth Board of Education to buy the field opposite Dundas District School.

We have collected almost 1000 letters from residents and service group members across Dundas who urge that this area of green space be kept for the community. The foremost reasons for this purchase are:

1) 14 acres lost in Dundas in 3 years
Between 2005 and 2008, 4 schools have closed in Dundas (Pleasant Valley, University Gardens, Central Park and Dundas District). and the town will have lost to development their accompanying community playing fields. The lost area amounts to approximately 14 acres of green space.

2) Important to our kids
The field (pictured above) is the only green space in this western end of Dundas and is used year-round for community activities including:
- kids soccer practice
- community group recreation
- as a focal natural area for the neighbourhood

If we want to fight childhood obesity, we need to provide areas where children can exercise and play.

3) Natural features
There is a rare Chinkapin Oak tree on this site that is estimated to be at least 200 years old. Also the Hamilton Conservation Authority is custodian of a stream that runs along the eastern-most side of the field.

We urge you to consider this motion favourably.
The Dundas District Innovation Group (Dundas residents’ action group)

Julianne Burgess, Mary-Jane Dolbear, Lee Fairbanks, Ann Gillespie, Ken Hall, Julia Kollek, Darlyne Mills, Ann Parker, Kris Robinson, Art Samson, Mike Sheehy
June 1, 2007

Mayor Fred Eisenberger, City Councillors
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
L8P 4Y5

Re: Appeal to Preserve the Green space on Dundas District School Property

As a concerned member of this community I urge the City of Hamilton to put forth a bona fida offer (Fair Market Value) to the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the purchase of the green space across the street from Dundas District School. It is vital for the residents of Dundas to have this green space available for numerous reasons, including:

1. First and foremost, Dundas residents have lost green space with the recent closures of a school in University Gardens and Pleasant Valley.

2. Many young people in Dundas involved in sports clubs who need green space for their activities.

3. This end of town has no park and local residents need a natural place to relax and spend leisure time.

4. This field is also home to a Chinkapin Oak Tree estimated to be 200 years old. This tree is listed on the Ontario Honour Role of Trees because of its age and rarity and is a source of pride to local residents.

For these reasons, I urge City Council to make a genuine effort to purchase this green space on behalf of the residents of the Dundas community.

Thank you

Signature: [Signature]
Name: [Name]
Address: [Address]
Phone Number: 905
June 1, 2007

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Signature: Susan Nelan
Name: Susan Nelan
Address: 
Phone Number: