

Soccer fields near airport? Developer says it's possible

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A developer who tried unsuccessfully to build soccer fields near the Ottawa airport believes he's found a loophole that could allow the project to proceed without airport authority approval.

Developer Larry Pegg, of Ecoview, wants Ottawa to accept an offer by the authority to lease a 42-acre parcel for a light rail transit maintenance yard — then turn the land over to him at top market value, while using another site for its yard.

"I think the city needs to look at all the costs and ben-

efits of this. I really look forward to sitting down with city staff. The (deal) can be tweaked for the benefit of the city," said Pegg.

The airport authority reiterated yesterday that it won't be doing business with Ecoview.

City spokesman Eric Collard said staff knows of Pegg's plan.

"We're aware of the proposal and there's no involvement from the city at this time," said Collard.

Pegg remains optimistic his 'five-year' dream can become a reality. He's lined up private sponsors willing to pour money in the multi-million project.