



4310 Shoreline Drive, Ottawa, ON K1V1N4
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April 24, 2006

Dear Your Worship and Councillors,

The Riverside South Community Association supports the motion to be tabled before City Council by Councillor Doug Thompson on April 26, 2006, for the City to:

- a) initiate negotiations with Transport Canada and the Ottawa Airport Authority for the potential use of the Bowesville site for use as multipurpose sports and recreation facilities, run by either the City or a Public-Private Partnership or other entity;
- b) conduct an economic assessment of the financial impact of usage of the site for a 30 field soccer park;
- c) conduct a review of other municipalities that have similar large scale sports facilities to become acquainted with any topics that could prove important to the City should it choose to operate or procure the creation of a sports facility on the Bowesville lands; and,
- d) undertake a review of hazards and risks associated with the proximity of the Bowesville lands to the Ottawa Airport in conjunction with Transport Canada and other experts in the field.

A new recreational complex such as the one proposed would generate substantial benefits for Ottawa year-round. It would create not just a local recreational destination but it would certainly also be a preferred venue for regional, provincial, national and international soccer and ultimate tournaments. The proposed preliminary plans also include numerous winter sporting opportunities providing the complex a strong business case and revenue generation prospects every month of the year.

The planned North-South Light Rail Transit (LRT) Line is a key component to the future success of the development plans in the south urban regions of the City. The creation of a large recreational complex on the Bowesville site along the LRT line would help ensure increased ridership in addition to the commuters from southern Ottawa communities utilizing the LRT. The complex could also spawn additional commercial development along the LRT line with businesses catering to patrons travelling by train and by private vehicle. In conducting the studies requested in this motion, we urge Council to direct the City administration to execute their work in an expeditious manner (i.e. 3-4 months) so that the studies do not impact the project schedule of the North-South LRT Line project.

We encourage you to vote in support of the motion and for additional recreational venues in Ottawa.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Hodge".

Scott Hodge
President
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