

Appendix G



Councillor Ceta Ramkhalawansingh

Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

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Confidential and Without Prejudice

Donna Quan, Director of Education
And
Carla Kisko, Associate Director of Education
Toronto District School Board
5050 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON
M2N 5N8

Dear Donna and Carla:

Re: The Central Technical School Field

Thank you very much for meeting with us via teleconference on July 21, 2014 to discuss the possibilities for re-opening the school grounds at Central Technical School.

We believe that all of us are in agreement that there is a high need for green space in this part of the city and that the Central Tech school field has been filling this need for both the school and for area residents. At present, no one can use the field due to the contamination that has been found and as a result it has been fenced off.

It is in our mutual interest to fix this problem right away so that students and local residents have a place to play and run, and we hope that this can be achieved this coming fall, shortly after school re-opens.

We have an opportunity to address this situation within a very narrow window as the last City Council meeting will be held starting on August 25, 2014 and we would be grateful if you would bring the following proposal for consideration by the trustees of the Toronto District School Board.

Because we have received an allotment of funds for community benefits, i.e. Section 37, arising from a nearby development, some of which have been targeted towards community improvements in Ward 20, we are prepared to request that City Council make available a significant portion of these funds toward a capital project that would assist in efforts to re-open the field.

We are prepared to request that approximately \$300,000 be made available for field improvement and soil decontamination to the Central Tech field, provided that a satisfactory community use agreement can be worked out, consistent with the City's guidelines and practices for these types of arrangement. We have also been made aware that a local resident is prepared to donate funds of approximately \$200,000 for this purpose. This proposal is being made because fixing the field would

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dovetail with the recommendations that are arising from the Bathurst Street Study. This approach could meet our mutual goals.

We are well aware of the severe difficulties faced by the school with respect to funding shortfalls, and as you know in Ward 19 and Ward 20 we have tried to assist schools with their playgrounds. In Ward 20 we have been working with Ogden Public School and are in the process of working with the Waterfront School, and in Ward 19 we are working with Montrose Public School.

We are also aware that several of our colleagues on City Council are involved in initiatives with a number of schools regarding school yard revitalization. Our proposal is not unprecedented.

It is our hope that the TDSB and the City can come to an agreement on this and we would be available to meet with the trustees to address this proposal.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,


Councillor Ceta Ramkhalawansingh
Ward 20 – Trinity Spadina


Councillor Mike Layton
Ward 19 – Trinity Spadina