



GEORGINA

THE REDEVELOPMENT OF WEST PARK

PROJECT INFORMATION AND PUBLIC INPUT QUESTIONNAIRE

SOME BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Project: The Town of Georgina is preparing designs for the rejuvenation of the active sports facilities of the 10 hectare West Park. Improvements will include the replacement of its existing core recreation facilities, the addition of other desirable recreation features and the enhancement of the park's scenic and environmental landscape qualities.

Importance to the Park System: West Park is a high profile gateway feature on the Lake to Lake Trail System and the southern boundary of the Town at the Lake Simcoe nearshore area. With the exception of the ROC, West Park is the largest actively programmed parkland for the Town. Tableland park areas of this size and scale for active recreation are increasingly difficult and costly to obtain within the public parks and open space systems of new development areas. As such, West Park should be acknowledged as a vital resource for servicing active recreation for the future and will evolve to have a high profile for many community interest groups in the Town.

Existing Conditions: It is well understood in the community that the sports-field facilities at West Park are at the end of their usable life cycle and are in need of replacement. The current conditions of West Park are often less than ideal for competitive sports and seasonally result in water-logged fields that must be taken out of active use for extended periods.

Approximately 65% of the lands of West Park fall within the area subject to regulation and comment by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority. Designs for the renovation of the property will require a formal review and permit from the Conservation Authority.

Environment: Environmental stewardship is a primary component of the final design product including:

- Establish landscapes with environmental and habitat value between and around structured recreation facilities. Provide for community education opportunities regarding the environments of the area.

- Explore systems for the conservation and re-use of storm water and grey-water.
- Provide for the protection, enhancement and rehabilitation of the neighbouring environmental features of the Provincially Significant Wetland.
- Limit or eliminate light pollution from the facilities while ensuring sports-light levels for competitive play.
- Link the park into the energy conservation initiatives and systems of the local neighbouring community and the broader town.

Park Core Program: Plan the park to include the current core park program of tournament-ready sports facilities but also include areas with the size and flexibility to respond to a wider variety of community recreation and cultural use and events.

Integration: Create a welcoming, inclusive, safe and accessible landscape that includes the following objectives and principles:

- Universal and inclusive play spaces and supporting features for children and family recreation.
- Provide space and opportunities for integrated and inclusive Recreation Programming.
- Create a barrier-free environment to the greatest degree possible for all members of the community.
- Provide flexibility of use in significant and adequately sized park areas for the responsive evolution of the park program and adaptability within the park as a stage for cultural and civic events.

Connectivity and Access: Recognize the site as a key destination of the Town Trail Systems and the Lake to Lake Trail. Plan for trail and integrated public transit connections as real and desirable alternatives to the car. Build in facilities for trail users, car-pools and public transit users.

