



Department of the City Clerk

City Hall, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 2N2

*Sarah*

Roy V. Henderson / City Clerk

Barbara Caplan / Deputy City Clerk

Ms. Jane Lockwood 392-7039

May 12, 1986

RECEIVED MAY 14 1986

Mr. W. J. Lotto  
Metropolitan Toronto Clerk  
2nd Floor, West Tower

Dear Mr. Lotto:

City Council, at its meeting on May 5, and May 9, 1986, gave consideration to the attached Clause 28 contained in Report No. 8 of the Neighbourhoods Committee, entitled "Urban Farm for Hanlan's Point".

Council adopted the Clause with the amendment set out at the end thereof, and Council's action is forwarded to you for information and any necessary action.

Yours truly,

*Barbara Caplan*  
Deputy City Clerk

*JL* /ms  
JL

Encl.

cc: All Interested Persons ✓

CITY OF TORONTO  
DEPARTMENT OF THE  
CITY CLERK

CLAUSE EMBODIED IN REPORT NO. 8 OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMITTEE WHICH WAS AMENDED  
AND ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING  
HELD ON MAY 5, AND MAY 9, 1986.

28

### URBAN FARM FOR HANLAN'S POINT

The Committee submits the communication (April 23, 1986) from Councillor Layton, and reports having requested the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation to report directly to Council as set out therein:

As you may know, Metro Toronto is considering an urban farm for an area on Hanlan's Point.

I do not believe that the Commissioner of Parks has had an opportunity to report on this proposal, particularly now that a specific site has been selected. I believe that the City should thoroughly examine this proposal because I believe that it may have detrimental effects on the environment of that portion of Hanlan's Point. In addition, it should be noted that a large area of passive park would be transformed to a rather intensively developed farm environment.

Recommendation: That the Commissioner of Parks be requested to report directly to City Council on the proposed Urban Farm for Hanlan's Point, and that he be requested to identify any environmental or other impacts which he believes to be of concern.

Note: Metro Council will consider the Urban Farm at its meeting of May 13th.

The Committee also submits, for information, the communication (April 7, 1986) from the Metropolitan Toronto Clerk, entitled "Urban Farm at Hanlan's Point":

The Metropolitan Council on April 4, 1986 had before it the appended Clause No. 7 of Report No. 4 of The Parks, Recreation and Property Committee, headed 'Toronto Island Development - Various Projects', which Clause embodies the following recommendation:

"(3) that the consulting firm of Leslie Rebanks Architects be retained to provide the necessary professional architectural services related to the feasibility, site planning and preliminary concept design for the proposed Urban Farm complex to an upset limit not to exceed \$30,000.00."

The Metropolitan Council adopted the foregoing Clause subject to referring the above recommendation back to the Parks, Recreation and Property Committee for further consideration; and that the Commissioner of Parks and Property be requested to provide the Members of Council a copy of a reduced version of the Concept Plan.

(Clause No. 7 of Report No. 4 of The Parks, Recreation and Property Committee, referred to above)

On November 20, 1984, the Metropolitan Toronto Council, in adopting Clause No. 7, Report No. 13 of The Parks, Recreation and Property Committee, approved the Phase 1, 1984-1985 Development Programme of the Toronto Island Concept Plan in the amount of \$2,850,000.00. Included in the approved 1986-1990 Parks Capital Works Programme under Item No. 10, Toronto Island Development - Various Projects, is the sum of \$840,000.00 indicated in 1986, of which \$400,000.00 was earlier approved in 1985, leaving a balance of \$440,000.00.

The Toronto Island Concept Plan, approved by the Metropolitan Toronto Council on June 8, 1984 (see Report No. 9 of The Parks, Recreation and Property Committee), presents a comprehensive plan for the future development of the Toronto Islands inclusive of upgrading present structures and facilities and providing a limited number of new facilities to address changing recreational needs. One of the major goals of the plan is to decentralize new facilities and services, thereby alleviating congestion at Centre Island and producing more balanced use of the park as a whole.

Items proposed in the plan include a ground transportation system, a wave pool/slide ride facility, an urban farm, irrigation and site service improvements, the retrofit of various buildings for parks storage and maintenance purposes, and general landscape improvements.

Further to the initial approval to proceed with the Phase 1 Development Programme, this Department has purchased the on-Island ground transportation system inclusive of six power coaches and fourteen passenger units and completed the up-grading of the Long Pond Regatta Course to recognized standards.

Significant progress has also been made on the retrofit of the former Island Filter Building which was recently acquired by this Department to serve as a parks storage/maintenance depot. This work has involved the provision of a floor slab, exterior masonry improvements, the provision of overhead doors and building code related improvements.

The 1986 work programme will see the finalization of this renovation programme. Completion of this work will result in a 33,000 square foot heated service building capable of storing and servicing the Island's maintenance equipment, trackless train units, and other rolling stock. It will further enable the Department to demolish deteriorated, wooden garage structures in the Island Yard which violate City of Toronto code requirements. As such, the refurbished structure presents a cost effective means of addressing the long term storage and maintenance facility requirements of our Island operation.

The 1986 work programme also provides for the initiation of planning studies for the proposed Toronto Island Urban Farm and further landscape improvements. The farm facility, as briefly highlighted in the June 8, 1984, Council approved "Toronto Island Concept Plan", calls for a working farm where programmed activities allow youngsters and adults to take part in ongoing farm activities under supervision. By doing so, an educational experience is gained by the close contact of participants with farm culture, animals and equipment. Components of the farm might include a vegetable patch, apple orchard, animal corrals, beehives, barns and silos.

The concept of a working urban farm, while new to Canada, is well established in Europe with close to 100 installations in England, Belgium, Germany and Holland. Total visitation to some of the larger installations exceeds 250,000 participants comprised of school groups, day camps, youth clubs and the general public who come to watch the youngsters undertake their daily chores.

Our 1986 work programme related to this item proposes to undertake programme studies along with concept design and costing. This will include an analysis of the relocation of our existing "Far Enough Farm" from Centreville to the new Urban Farm location near the Trout Pond at Hanlan's Point. Completing these studies will enable this Department to present a detailed project specific report for your Committee and Council's approval in 1987.

Accordingly, it is recommended that:

- (1) the above-noted 1986 Capital Works Development Programme for Toronto Island be approved;
- (2) subject to the approval of the Ontario Municipal Board, the work be undertaken as a capital project in the amount of \$440,000.00 to be financed by the issue of debentures having a term not exceeding twenty years, this being the term suggested appropriate by the Metropolitan Commissioner of Finance;

- (3) the consulting firm of Leslie Rebanks Architects be retained to provide the necessary professional architectural services related to the feasibility, site planning and preliminary concept design for the proposed Urban Farm complex to an upset not to exceed \$30,000.00; and
- (4) the appropriate Metropolitan Officials be directed to take the necessary action to give effect to the foregoing.

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COUNCIL ACTION - MAY 5, AND MAY 9, 1986  
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During consideration of this Clause, Council also had before it a report (May 2, 1986) from the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation. (Copy attached - 70)

Council amended this Clause by adding at the end thereof the following:

"It is recommended that Metropolitan Toronto be advised that Council supports the proposal for an urban farm on Hanlan's Point; and if a consultant is retained, the Metropolitan Corporation instruct the consultant to report on environmental impacts of the proposal and that this information be transmitted to the City of Toronto for comment, prior to finalizing any arrangements for the urban farm."

CITY OF TORONTO  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

NO. 441  
REFER 111

MAY 5 9 27 AM '86

May 2nd, 1986.

170

Re: Clause 28 of Report No. 8 of the Neighbourhoods Committee

To: City Council

Subject: Urban Farm - Hanlan's Point

Origin: Neighbourhoods Committee - April 24, 1986  
(c36cncl86015:12)

Comments:

At its meeting on April 24, 1986, the Neighbourhoods Committee had before it a communication (April 23, 1986) from Councillor Layton respecting Metropolitan Council's consideration of a proposed Urban Farm on Hanlan's Point.

The Committee concurred in Councillor Layton's recommendation and requested me to report directly to City Council for its meeting of May 5, 1986, on the proposed Urban Farm for Hanlan's Point, and to identify any environmental or other impacts which I believe to be of concern.

In my report of July 10th, 1984 (Report No. 17 of the Neighbourhoods Committee, Executive Committee Report No. 23, adopted by City Council on September 17th, 1984) on the Toronto Island Concept Plan, I commented as follows:

"Urban Farm

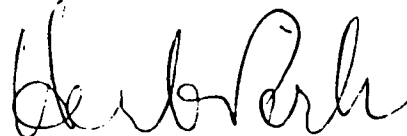
If this facility is operated within the conceptual framework outlined in this report, I think it would be of interest to many urban residents. As is stated in the report, many children and a good number of adults have had no experience with a farming operation and would no doubt find it to be educational and informative".

In the Toronto Island Concept Plan, the Metropolitan Toronto Parks and Property Department proposed that its existing Far Enough Farm be relocated from Centreville to the area opposite the Island Trout Pond, where it would be expanded into a full working urban farm.

City Council

May 2nd, 1986.

With respect to any environmental or other impacts which I believe to be of concern, I advise that, at this point in time, I have no information beyond the April 7th communication from the Metro Clerk. City Council could request that the consultant for Metro be instructed to report on environmental impacts of the proposal and that this information be transmitted to the City of Toronto.



Commissioner of Parks  
and Recreation.

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