

From: S Lee

Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 10:14 AM

To: Clerks Richmondhill clerks@richmondhill.ca

Subject: Disc Golf

Please include the following as correspondence for the September 9, 2026 Committee of the Whole meeting regarding Staff Report SRPBS.26.055, Pilot Disc Golf Project.

On March 31, I submitted comments supporting the exploration of disc golf opportunities while asking Council to consider full lifecycle costs, ongoing financial commitments, opportunities to use existing infrastructure and the City's broader financial priorities.

The staff report provides useful benchmarking and site analysis. However, the recommendation now moves beyond exploration. Council is being asked to allocate \$35,000 from the Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund for an all-season pilot at Ada Mackenzie Park operating from 2027 through 2032.

Before approving the funding, I respectfully ask Council to clarify the following:

1. Does the \$35,000 include design, installation, signage, maintenance and monitoring for the entire six-year period? If not, what additional annual operating costs, staff time and future funding will be required?
2. Why is a six-year, all-season operation considered a pilot? What usage, safety, maintenance, neighbourhood-impact and cost measurements will be collected? When will staff report the results to Council, and what are the criteria for continuing or ending the project?
3. The report acknowledges that the City generally does not direct individuals to play within stormwater management facilities because of liability risks. The attached City warning sign states that such a facility is "Not for recreational or any other use by the public." Has the City confirmed that the proposed course and modified signage comply with all environmental approvals, safety requirements and liability considerations?
4. The stormwater pond is scheduled to begin its retrofit cycle in 2029, with construction currently forecast for 2033. Will the pilot interfere with that work, and are eventual removal or site-restoration costs included in the proposed funding?
5. Ada Mackenzie Park has no onsite parking. Staff identifies more than 100 possible spaces on surrounding residential streets. How will parking and neighbourhood impacts be monitored, and will nearby residents be consulted before installation?

6. What is the current balance of the Cash-in-Lieu of Parkland Reserve Fund, and what other park projects are competing for those funds? Using a reserve avoids an immediate property-tax charge, but it does not eliminate the opportunity cost.

The motion referred to approximately 88 percent support among ECO Family Fest survey respondents for exploring disc golf opportunities. That result should not be interpreted as approval of this particular location, a six-year pilot or the proposed expenditure without the survey's sample size and methodology.

I continue to support examining affordable recreational opportunities. However, responsible stewardship requires that the full cost, risks, objectives and reporting requirements be clear before funds are committed.

I respectfully ask Committee to receive the report but defer recommendation (b) until this information is provided, or make any approval conditional upon these matters being addressed before a contract is awarded.

Thank you.

Sigmund Lee

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Richmond Hill