REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

REPORT RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf. Your File/V/Réf.	
DATE	28 June 1999
TO/DEST.	Co-ordinator Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee
FROM/EXP.	Commissioner Planning and Development Approvals Department
SUBJECT/OBJET	ACQUISITION OF LAND - CITY OF GLOUCESTER

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee recommend Council:

- 1. Approve a subsidy for the acquisition of three properties in lots 19 and 20, Broken Front Concession, R. F. in the City of Gloucester, illustrated on Annex A and containing a total of 2.49 hectares of land, to the City of Gloucester, in the amount of \$285,244 plus GST being 50% of the acquisition costs incurred by the City of Gloucester;
- 2. Authorize staff to enter into an agreement whereby the City will develop and manage these properties for park purposes in conjunction with other lands owned or to be acquired by the City of Gloucester, consistent with the Region's objectives in preserving waterfront open space. In the event of a future disposition of these lands, the Region will be entitled to 50% of the then market value of the lands subsidized.

BACKGROUND

In the summer of 1998, the Region was approached by the City of Gloucester with respect to the acquisition of certain lands located in the vicinity of the existing Riverside South Park (between River Road and the Rideau River north of Armstrong Road) owned by the City of Gloucester (see Annex A). In particular, a 0.4 hectare parcel owned by W. and J.M. Lawlor, a 1.09 hectare parcel owned by S.A. and T.S. Rahal and a 1 hectare parcel owned by J.Temple. The Rahal and Temple properties are located on either side of the existing Riverside South Park. The Lawlor

property is located further south. The property between Rahal and Lawlor is the subject of discussion between the City of Gloucester and the owner and does not form part of this package.

The City of Gloucester is attempting to expand the existing park as part of a Millennium Project. In light of the Region's interest in the protection of waterfront properties, we were approached by the City to determine whether or not a financial contribution might be made available to assist the City with this project and at the same time protect river frontage consistent with the Region's existing policies.

Regional staff acknowledged that there was logic in the Region's participation and it was agreed, subject to the approval of both the Council of the Region of Ottawa-Carleton and the Council of the City of Gloucester, that a financial contribution of 50% of the acquisition costs to an upset limit of \$300,000 would be recommended to Regional Council once details surrounding these purchases were solidified. In light of the City's ownership of certain lands already and their ongoing negotiations for the purchase of the balance, it was agreed that ownership of the entire parcel, including the three to be subsidized by the Region, should logically rest with the City of Gloucester

In return, Gloucester will assume all ongoing management responsibilities and will commit to the preservation of all of the land from the Temple property to the proposed bridge crossing location, in a manner consistent with the Region's waterfront open space objectives. This will include both lands currently owned by the City and those to be acquired now and in the future. Should the City and the Region determine that the properties are surplus to their needs or are transferred to a third party, the Region will be entitled to receive 50% of the proceeds of any sale, of the three parcels which are subject to this subsidy.

Over the past 12 months, the City has been negotiating with the three owners. An agreement was reached for the acquisition of the Temple property some months ago and the negotiations for Rahal and Lawlor were completed recently. A report has been approved by City of Gloucester staff recommending these acquisitions subject to the availability of a financial contribution of 50% from the Region of Ottawa-Carleton.

The three properties to be acquired include:

- A 0.4 hectare parcel improved with a residence owned by W & J.M. Lawlor. The purchase price is \$129,905 including the market value and all costs;.
- A 1.09 hectare property improved with a residence, owned by S.A. & T.S. Rahal. The purchase price is \$361,762 including all costs;
- A 1.0213 hectare vacant parcel of land owned by J. Temple. The purchase price is \$78,822 including all costs.

Prior to initiating discussions, the City of Gloucester obtained appraisals which were subsequently reviewed by Regional staff. The market value of the properties as negotiated is consistent with those appraisals. The total cost of this acquisition is \$570,489. The Region's share will be 50%

or \$285,244 plus GST. All three of these properties are located within the area designated in the Region's Official Plan as Waterfront Open Space

The Region's financial contribution will be limited to the Capital costs associated with the initial acquisition. The remaining parcels (located between Rahal and Lawlor and north of Rahal) will be acquired by the City of Gloucester at some future time.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

This project has been led by the City of Gloucester and as such no public consultation has been initiated by the Region. There was public consultation with respect to the Waterfront Open Space designation in the Region's Official Plan.

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION

The financial participation in the purchase of these lands will enable the City of Gloucester to secure ownership of key parcels of land along the Rideau River which is consistent with the Region's objectives of protecting riverfront corridor lands. In this case, the Region is investing in the protection of River corridor land based on an investment of 50% of the market value and acquisition costs. In the event these lands are ever sold, the Region would be entitled to 50% of the proceeds of any sale.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Approved Budget to Date	\$11,426,000
Total Paid and Committed	8,294,412
Balance Available	3,131,588
THIS REQUEST	293,801
Balance Remaining	\$ 2,837,787

Approved by Nick Tunnacliffe Commissioner Date June 29, 1999

Funds are available in the 1999 Capital Budget Account No. 912-62901 Environmental Resource Areas Acquisition Order Number 900138

Approved by T. Fedec on behalf of the Finance Commissioner

