

2.0 PURPOSE:

This report provides an update on the disposition of the General Brock High School site that was declared surplus by the Halton District School Board.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

In September 2003, Council passed Motion 138, establishing the General Brock Park Committee. The committee represents the interests of the community in the disposition of the General Brock High School site.

On December 15, 2003, Council passed resolution CC-290-03 requesting an extension to allow the City and the Community group a review period up to June 2005 to effectively study the potential options of the site. Halton District School Board agreed to the extension.

In April 2005, the Halton District School Board forwarded a letter to the City indicating that the Board required a further one-year time period up to June 2006, to assess the impact of new provincial policies for school funding. The Halton District School Board requires further information from the Province to determine whether the policies will impact the disposition of the General Brock High School site. The letter is attached as Appendix A.

4.0 DISCUSSION:

Prior to the request for a one-year time extension, it was anticipated that a report would have been presented to Council in June of 2005 with a recommendation as to how to proceed with the disposal of the General Brock High School site.

The one-year extension request from the Halton District School Board came at an opportune time. The team working on the City and McMaster University partnership to establish a university presence in Burlington is extremely excited about the opportunities the General Brock High School site may provide for this post-secondary initiative. The McMaster University team have met with the General Brock Park Committee and have agreed to work with the Committee in the review of the site for the university.

The McMaster University team will use the next couple of months to review their requirements and how those requirements may fit and function on the site. A further meeting will be held with the McMaster University team and the General Brock Park Committee team in September 2005.

Through the review process, a number of alternative options for the site have also been identified, including interest from the Halton Catholic District School Board. Until the funding policies for schools are clarified, the Halton District School Board will also maintain their interest in the site.

It is anticipated that further information on school funding policies will be available in the Fall of 2005. The McMaster University team will also have completed their review by that time. Staff will report the status of this site again in the Fall of 2005.

5.0 FINANCIAL MATTERS:

N/A

6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS:

N/A

7.0 COMMUNICATION MATTERS:

The City and the General Brock Park Committee maintain website information on the General Brock Surplus School site process to inform the public on the status of the site.

At the appropriate juncture, a public meeting will be held to inform the community about the options being considered and the potential uses for this site.

8.0 CONCLUSION:

City staff will continue to work with the General Brock Park Committee, the McMaster University Team and both Boards of Education and any other potential partners to determine the future disposition of the General Brock High School site.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte O'Hara-Griffin
Open Space & Park Development Planner

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Appendices:

Appendix A – Letter from Halton District School Board – April 2005
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Staff / Others Consulted:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Ron Steinginga	7871
McMaster University Team	
General Brock Park Committee	
Halton District School Board	
Halton Catholic District School Board	

Notifications:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Mailing or E-mail Address</u>
General Brock Park Consultation Committee	
ATTN: Amy Schnurr	

Special Instructions:

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Halton District School Board

FACILITY SERVICES

April 4, 2005

Charlotte O'Hara-Griffin
The Corporation of the City of Burlington
426 Brant Street, P. O. Box 5013
Burlington, Ontario
L7R 3Z6

Dear Ms. O'Hara-Griffin:

Re: General Brock H.S. Site

Recent announcements from the Ministry of Education have introduced changes to the way in which school boards will be funded for new school construction. These announcements are not complete, and therefore, have raised some questions that we cannot yet answer.

I have been directed to seek a delay on the closing date for the sale of General Brock by one year. We are aware that the City has been actively working with the local community members on a variety of related issues. Please share this news with them at your earliest convenience. If you would like staff from the School Board to attend a future meeting, we would be available to do so.

We will be leaving our Adult High School at the site during the next year. We will be reviewing additional uses that would be in place for this additional year of use.

Sincerely,

Gerry Cullen
Superintendent of Facility Services

GC/fl
General Brock H.S. Site

cc: Karen Gill
Nick Maandag
Coleen Dachuk