

Parks and Open Space Property Line Fencing Policy

Division:	Parks, Forestry and Recreation	Approved by:	Parks, Forestry and Recreation Directors
Date Approved:	June 14, 2007	Category:	Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Policy Statement

1.0 This policy addresses requirements and procedures relating to city wide fencing of municipally-owned parkland and natural areas which are adjacent to private property.

Application

1.0 This policy applies to boundary fencing between municipal owned parks and open spaces. Parkland property line fencing is to be located on the common lot line and meet the detail and specifications for chain link fencing herein attached. All surveys to accurately locate the propertyline shall be administered by the City.

2.0 Where the City owned park land shares a common property line with a private property owner, the City will normally install and share 50% of the cost of 1.83m (6ft.) height chain link fence.

3.0 Where the City owned park land serves as a Walkway or Park Entrance, and is 15.2m (50ft.) or less in width, a minimum 1.21m (4ft.) height chain link fence will be installed to the City's standard specification, and all costs will be borne by the City.

Procedure

1.0 Requests for fencing will be submitted in writing by the private property owner (resident) to the Director of Parks who will either:

1.1 authorize the installation if the City's share of the cost is available and enter into an agreement by completing the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Parks and Open Space Property Line Fencing Agreement Form; or

1.2 authorize the private property owner to complete the replacement/repair at their own expense; or

1.3 place the application on a waiting list if the City's share of the cost is not available.

2.0 Existing chain link fence repair/replacement will be investigated by Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff based on the following criteria: The fence must have fallen down or be at risk of falling down.

3.0 The private property owner (resident) is responsible for temporary repairs to fences while permanent repair/replacement is pending.

4.0 Upon written request by the private property owner (resident), an alternative type of fence may be approved at the discretion of the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division provided that:

4.1 written approvals from Municipal Licensing and Standards stating alternative fence adheres to the specifications outlined in the City's Municipal Code, Chapter 447, Fences.

5.0 The contribution by the City to the total cost shall remain as 50% of the cost of alternative fence and, in no case, shall exceed 50% of the cost of the standard chain link fence. Future maintenance and replacement costs for this type of upgraded fence shall be assumed by the property owner (resident).

6.0 The City will share only in the cost of fence installations made within City Purchase Orders, issued after receipt by the City of the resident's acceptance of the City's terms and conditions herein described.

7.0 The City will be responsible for obtaining quotations for the work and for coordinating the installation with the chosen contractor. Should the private property owner (resident) wish to have a specific contractor included in the City's tendering process, all pertinent details shall be shown in a separate letter of request, and enclosed with the Residential Fencing Program, Agreement Form. If the resident's request for an alternate type of fencing is approved (as in 4.0 above), the property owner (resident) will be responsible for all arrangements relating to installation of the fence and will provide necessary invoices and documentation as proof of the true cost of installation.

8.0 The property owner (resident) will be responsible for clearing the common lot line of all obstructions prior to erection of fence.

9.0 The costs shared with the city will include only repairs to the existing chain link fence or replacement in kind of the existing fence. The private property owner(s) shall be responsible for the full cost of any upgrades to the existing fence.

10.0 Any fence that was lawfully erected before the day this policy comes into force is deemed to comply with this policy and may be maintained as erected, but when the fence is replaced, the replacement fence shall comply with this policy.

11.0 In new developments a standard condition of approval will require the installation of property line fencing at the developer's expense.

Private Gates

1.0 Private gates in park and open space fences are not permitted. Exemptions are subject to the provisions of Section 2.0

2.0 Exemptions to the prohibition against gates will be considered at the discretion of the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation based on the following criteria;

2.1 complete and submit to the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division, the Open Space Property Line Fencing Policy - Gate Application; and

2.2 demonstrated resident need for direct park access; or

2.3 excess distances to park entrances (park walkways or street frontages)

2.4 Approval will require compliance with the following:

(a) minimal impact on park facilities and natural features (i.e. woodlots, slopes, floodplains, naturalized areas etc), and

(b) use by the private property owner only; and

(c) gate swings inward, has self closing/locking devices); and

(d) does not open onto active parkland (i.e.ball diamonds, playing fields, tennis courts etc.).

3.0 The cost of such gate will be entirely the responsibility of the private property owner (resident).

4.0 If the approved gate becomes a maintenance or operational concern, the City may remove or seal the gate upon written notice being issued to the private property owner.

**Specification Standard for
Chain Link Fence/Gate
Construction**

1.0 Posts and Rails

1.1 End, corner and Gate Posts (Terminal Posts): 90mm (3-1/2in.) O.D., schedule 40 butt welded and galvanized.

1.2 Line Posts: 60mm (2-3/8in) O.D., schedule 40 butt welded and galvanized.

1.3 Top and Bottom Rails; Centre Braces; Gate Frames: 43mm (1-11/16 in.) O.D., schedule 40 butt welded and galvanized. Install centre braces at all end, corner, straining and gate posts.

1.4 Maximum spacing of Line Posts 3.1m (10ft.) on centre.

2.0 Concrete Footings

2.1 Fence post footings shall be minimum 250mm(10 in.) diameter, 1.37m (4-1/2 ft.) deep, 25 Mpa concrete, 70mm max. slump, 6% air entrained.

2.2 All post holes to be drilled by mechanical means. Holes shall be neat with vertical sides. Remove all surplus material.

2.3 After post installation, the concrete shall be vibrated or hand rodded to provide a complete bond.

2.4 Top of concrete footing to be 150mm (6 in.) below finished

grade. Slope concrete at top of footing away from post.

2.5 Backfill post holes with granular fill material leaving no voids.

3.0 Chain link Fence

3.1 Fabric to be style 5035, 50mm (2 in.) opening, minimum 9 gauge woven, diamond pattern, zinc coated, galvanized wire. Fabric to be knuckled top and bottom, smooth finish, and free of sharpburrs. Coating to be minimum 488 g/sq.m.(1.6 oz./sq.ft.) zinc.

3.2 Fabric to be hung on the park side.

3.3 Fabric shall not be hung until concrete footings have cured minimum 48 hours.

3.4 Fabric shall be stretched tight and securely fastened in accordance with the best practices common to the fencing industry.

3.5 The space between the surface of the ground and the bottom of the fabric shall not be less than 25mm (1 in.) and shall not exceed 75mm (3in.).Provide straining posts as required maintaining required gap at bottom of fabric.

4.0 Fencing Hardware

4.1 The tie wire shall be Style 35, 9 gauge high strength aluminum, spaced at 250mm(10 in.) intervals at top, centre and bottom rails and at 300mm (12 in.) intervals on the line posts.

4.2 Ends of ties to be twisted two full turns to ensure rigid connection of fabric to framework.

4.3 All fencing to be complete with waterproof post caps so designed as to fit and fasten securely over the posts and carries the top rail, offset bands and rail clamps of suitable size, manufactured in accordance with best practice common to the fencing industry.

5.0 Chain link fence privacy coverings/screens

5.1 No privacy covers (i.e. plastic weave, canvas, cloth, corrugated sheet metal, fiberglass panels etc.) of any kind, are permitted on chain link fencing abutting parkland.

