

Consolidated Clause in Economic Development and Parks Committee Report 5, which was considered by City Council on May 17, 18 and 19, 2005.

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Harmonized Permit Rates (All Wards)

City Council on May 17, 18 and 19, 2005, adopted this Clause without amendment.

The Economic Development and Parks Committee recommends that City Council adopt the staff recommendations in the Recommendations Section of the report (February 25, 2005) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Action taken by the Committee:

The Economic Development and Parks Committee received the supplementary report (April 21, 2005) from the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

Notice of the proposed by-law amendment to adopt new harmonized permit rates discussed in the following report was given as required by the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, and public notice was posted in the City's Web Site. No one appeared before the Committee on March 10, 2005.

The Economic Development and Parks Committee deferred this matter to its meeting on April 28, 2005, and no one appeared.

The Economic Development and Parks Committee submits the report (February 25, 2005) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

Purpose:

To propose harmonized permit rates for certain recreation facilities across the City and to respond to the request for information by the Economic Development and Parks Committee. This report does not deal with any recreational program fees.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Implementation of these new fees is scheduled for January 2006, and there are no financial implications on Parks and Recreation's 2005 Operating Budget resulting from the adoption of this report. However, shifts in usage patterns and volume will emerge once the partial implementation of the permit allocation policy and the new permit rates come into effect in January 2006 which may intensify with the implementation of the second phase of the permit

allocation policy in January 2007. As usage volume and patterns emerge during the implementation period, which may affect the operating results, annual reporting during implementation with any required pricing adjustments in order to maintain a revenue neutral position will be recommended.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the new harmonized permit rates for gymnasiums, rooms, kitchens, dry pads and children's use of sports fields as outlined in Attachment 1 be approved for implementation on January 1, 2006;
- (2) the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism implement an internal and external communications strategy in 2005 to generate awareness of the new allocation policy and new permit rates;
- (3) as part of the revenue analysis before the 2006 Operating Budget submission, staff report on the potential of incorporating a cost of living indexed increment to permit rates every year, beginning in January 2007;
- (4) staff report to the Economic Development and Parks Committee annually during the three-year implementation period, beginning in the third quarter of 2006 prior to finalizing the following years operating budget, on long-term financial implications resulting from any shift in usage patterns or volumes following the implementation of the new permit allocation policy and new permit rates;
- (5) staff report on insurance requirements for permit groups to the May meeting of the Economic Development and Parks Committee; and
- (6) the appropriate City officials be authorized to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

At its meeting on September 13, 2004, the Economic Development and Parks Committee approved a report, entitled "Harmonized Permit Allocation Policy and Permit Rates Framework". The report outlined a new Permit Allocation Policy for indoor and outdoor Parks and Recreation facilities. The policy provided guidance to staff on the allocation of facilities when demand exceeds supply. Prioritization would be given to permit applications from certain groups, in accordance with a matrix of three consideration criteria -- community or private/commercial groups; within the community group category, resident or non-resident groups; and for each category of community groups, the age of users (children, youth, adult and seniors).

The Economic Development and Parks Committee also approved six guiding principles (appended as Attachment 2) and a framework for the development of harmonized permit rates for gymnasiums, rooms, kitchens, dry pads and children's sports fields.

This report provides information on the actual permit rates that will be charged, beginning January 2006. The report also responds to other information requests by the Economic Development and Parks Committee.

In the April 29, 2004 report to the Audit Committee, the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism committed to review the issue of discounted or waived fees, to establish specific criteria for these exceptions and to determine the appropriate authorities and establish tracking mechanisms for such discounts which has been completed.

Comments:

Current Permit Rates:

Rates for usage of gymnasiums, rooms and common areas, kitchens, dry pads and children's use of sports fields have remained different, based on rates from legacy municipalities. They are the last Parks and Recreation facility permit rates to be harmonized.

In 1999, Council approved harmonized rental rates for indoor pools and ice facilities. As part of the 2002 and 2003 Operating Budget process, permit rates for adult use of sports fields, picnic facilities, garden allotments and wedding permits were harmonized. In the fall of 2004, Council approved harmonization of rates for tennis courts and tennis clubs.

With the introduction of harmonized rates for gymnasiums, rooms and common areas, kitchens, dry pads and children's use of sports fields, all Parks and Recreation permit rates would be harmonized.

Consultation on Harmonized Permit Rates:

Consultation sessions were held with permit holders in the summer of 2003 to discuss the harmonization and implementation of harmonized permit rates. Consultation sessions were also held in the spring of 2004 as part of the Parks and Recreation Division's organizational review. The results of these consultations were summarized in Parks and Recreation's Our Common Grounds strategic plan. Feedback from community groups is also reflected in the proposed harmonized allocation policy, guidelines and permit rates framework.

Harmonized Permit Rates:

In 2003, Parks and Recreation issued approximately 12,000 permits for a total of 743,893 hours of use at 1,374 different facilities, including gymnasiums, rooms and common areas, kitchens, dry pads and children's use of sports fields. Total revenue in 2004 from these permits was \$ 3.4 million. The calculation of new permit rates is based on these usage patterns and revenue target.

Details of the proposed harmonized permit rates for gymnasiums, rooms, kitchens, dry pads and children’s sports fields are outlined in Attachment 1. The proposed fee structure is based on differential rates for different facility types and for different user groups. Facilities are classified into Premier, A, B and C, according to the amenities available at the facility, with Premier being the facility with the most amenities. Permit fees would be highest for Premier facilities, and on a declining scale with A, B and C facilities. The criteria used to rate these facilities is outlined in Attachment 5.

User groups are categorized exactly as the permit allocation policy. Within each facility type, children and youth resident community groups would receive top priority, and thus, lower rates than adults and seniors groups. Additional fees, such as charges for storage space, set-up costs, cleaning costs, after hours fees, SOCAN and Municipal Alcohol Policy charges will continue to be charged, regardless of the user group or facility classification. These fees are calculated based on a case by case basis depending on the needs of the permit holder.

Revenue Impact:

The Economic Development and Parks Committee approved a permit fee framework that is revenue neutral. In other words, the proposed fee structure, when implemented, should have no impact on the projected permit revenue for Parks and Recreation, based on existing usage volume and pattern.

In accordance with Parks and Recreation’s Our Common Grounds strategic plan, permit and service priority is given to children and youth groups. Thus, the proposed fee structure provides for lower rates for children and youth resident community groups, slightly higher rates for adult and senior resident community groups, even higher rates for non-resident community groups, and the highest rate for private/commercial groups.

In order to maintain the final outcome of net zero impact on revenue generated from permits for these facilities, the fee structure is designed so that the higher private/commercial rate and non-resident and adult rates would “subsidize” the lower rate for children and youth resident community groups. The rate structure is based on a projected usage ratio among various groups as follows:

Group Category	Estimated Usage
Resident community - Children	50 percent
Resident community - Youth	10 percent
Resident community - Adult	20 percent
Resident community - Seniors	10 percent
Non-resident community - All Ages	7 percent
Private/Commercial	3 percent

This chart indicates that Children, Youth and Seniors make up 70 percent of our projected permit usage and this space will be made available on a heavily subsidized basis.

The implementation of the permit allocation policy will affect usage pattern and usage volume. As the new permit allocation policy will be implemented in three phases, beginning in January 2006, the shift in usage pattern and volume can only be accurately identified during the

second and third year of implementation in 2007 and 2008. In addition, usage volume and pattern may also be influenced by the new rates on its own, as well as other external factors, such as the permit rates of other facility providers like the School Boards.

Staff will report annually during the three-year implementation period on the impact of the new permit allocation policy and new permit rates, including any shifts in permit usage volume and pattern, and the corresponding revenue changes and financial impacts. The first report will be submitted to the Economic Development and Parks Committee in the third quarter of 2006 prior to the 2007 operating budget submission. Any rate changes required to maintain a revenue neutral outcome will be reported at the same time.

Comparison to Legacy Rates and to Surrounding Municipalities:

Existing permit rates are different across the City and are based on the legacy rates of municipalities prior to amalgamation. Attachment 3 provides an overview of our current general permit rate policies by former municipality. Overall, rates for adult resident community groups, non-resident community groups and private/commercial groups will increase, while rates for children and youth resident community groups will decrease.

Staff also gathered information on the permit rates of surrounding municipalities, including the Cities of Vaughan and Mississauga, as well as the Toronto District School Board. Overall, the new harmonized City of Toronto permit rates are comparable or lower than the rates of the surrounding municipalities. Details of the rate comparisons are shown in Attachment 4.

Impact of School Board Permit Rates:

Both the Toronto District School Board and the Toronto Catholic District School Board have recently lowered rates for community usage of its facilities. This is a direct result of additional Provincial funding provided through the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation designed to improve access for sport and recreation groups to community based facilities.

Since the School Boards significantly increased permit and usage fees for their facilities from 1998 to 2002, Parks and Recreation facilities have been under increased pressure to provide space for community groups which could not afford space within TDSB and TCDSB facilities. With the reduction of fees in school, it is anticipated that there will be some migration of community groups back to school facilities, particularly those that serve specific target groups like adult sport groups and those that require specialty facilities like auditoriums and stages.

The new rates being proposed for Parks and Recreation facilities are similar to the new permit rates for both School Boards. The major difference is that the Parks and Recreation facilities have lower rates for Children and Youth while the School Boards have lower rates for Adult groups. It should be noted that both Boards of Education have a \$20.00 permit administration fee and additional staffing charges apply on most rentals outside of school operating hours.

Timelines for Implementation:

At its meeting on September 13, 2004, the Economic Development and Parks Committee approved the proposed timeline for the implementation of the harmonized Permit Allocation Policy and Harmonized Permit Rates. During 2005, staff and permit holders will be notified of the policy changes. New rates and allocation changes will begin January 1, 2006. Permit holders will gain or lose no more than 25 percent of their existing permit allocation. Beginning January 2007, full implementation of the permit allocation policy will take place.

Cost of Living Indexed Changes:

At the moment, many City fees are indexed to Cost of Living increases, with annual adjustments in accordance with the rate of inflation. It is proposed that the permit rates for all Parks and Recreation facilities, including the rates proposed in this report and previously harmonized rates for pools, ice, adult usage of sports fields, garden lots, picnic permits and wedding photography be subject to a Cost of Living Increment annually. As the costs incurred by Parks and Recreation to maintain facilities increases every year, an annual Cost of Living adjustment will ensure that adequate resources are available. Many current permit holders have indicated that they would prefer to have early communication on changes to our fees so that they can plan adequately with their organizations.

As Parks and Recreation will be conducting a detailed revenue review in 2005, it is proposed that the issue of a Cost of Living adjustment to permit rates be incorporated as part of that report.

Insurance for Permit Groups:

At its meeting on September 13, 2004, the Economic Development and Parks Committee also requested the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism to report back with further information on third party insurance requirements for permit groups.

The Insurance and Risk Management Section of the Finance Department, in co-operation with Parks and Recreation staff, is currently reviewing insurance requirements for various types of permit holders for Parks and Recreation facilities. Various options are being considered. Further consultation with the insurance industry is in progress. It is anticipated that this report will be submitted for consideration by the Economic Development and Parks Committee in May 2005.

Conclusions:

This report proposes harmonized permit rates for gymnasiums, rooms, kitchens, dry pads and children's sports fields. The harmonized permit rates will ensure equitable, accessible and consistent permit rates for recreation facilities across the City. It will strengthen the City's commitment to community groups and advance Parks and Recreation's service priority on children and youth. In accordance with the approved permit rate framework, the proposed rate structure will be revenue neutral, with no anticipated impact on usage patterns and volume.

The proposed new permit rates will be implemented in January 2006 together with the launch of the first phase of the new permit allocation policy. Any shifts in usage volume or pattern as a result of the new allocation policy and/or the new permit rates will be closely tracked and reported to the Committee and Council annually, beginning the third quarter of 2006. Any financial impact on future year operating budgets will be identified at that point.

Even though the proposed harmonized permit rates are financially reasonable and below the pricing charged by other communities and organizations, and a large majority of children, youth and seniors users and will have facilities be made available for free or nominal cost, there may still be groups that will experience hardship. Staff will monitor the outcomes and report to Economic Development and Parks Committee on any issues and unforeseen impacts.

The pricing strategy utilized is one that starts to achieve the goals of Our Common Grounds in that it advances free use of a majority of facilities for our priority groups - children and youth. Our challenge remains to balance our long-term goals of increasing participation and access with managing the fiscal realities of Corporate revenue expectations.

Contact:

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List of Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Proposed Harmonized Permit Rates
- Attachment 2 - Guiding Principles for Permit Rates
- Attachment 3 - Permit Rate Policies by Former Municipality
- Attachment 4 - Comparison of Proposed Rates to Other Providers
- Attachment 5 - Criteria to Rate Amenities

Attachment 1
 Proposed Parks and Recreation Permit Rates

Gym -
 charged per
 hour

	Resident Community (90% TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	120.00
A	20.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00	40.00	80.00	40.00	100.00
B	10.00	10.00	30.00	15.00	30.00	30.00	60.00	30.00	75.00
C	5.00	5.00	20.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	60.00

Rooms -
 charged per
 3 hour block
 booking

	Resident Community (90 percent TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	200.00
A	20.00	20.00	60.00	30.00	60.00	60.00	120.00	60.00	120.00
B	0.00	0.00	45.00	0.00	45.00	45.00	90.00	45.00	90.00
C	0.00	0.00	30.00	0.00	30.00	30.00	60.00	30.00	60.00

Kitchen -
 charged per
 hour

	Resident Community (90 percent TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	60.00
A	10.00	10.00	20.00	10.00	20.00	20.00	40.00	20.00	40.00
B	0.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	15.00	15.00	30.00	15.00	30.00
C	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	10.00	10.00	20.00	10.00	20.00

Sports fields
 - charged
 per hour

	Resident Community (90 percent TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50	32.50
A	0.00	0.00	21.40	10.70	21.40	21.40	21.40	21.40	26.00
B	0.00	0.00	10.70	5.35	10.70	10.70	10.70	10.70	13.00
C	0.00	0.00	5.40	2.70	5.40	5.40	5.40	5.40	6.50

Indoor Dry
 Pad -
 charged per
 hour

	Resident Community (90 percent TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	130.00
A	50.00	50.00	60.00	50.00	60.00	60.00	100.00	60.00	110.00
B	45.00	45.00	55.00	45.00	55.00	55.00	75.00	55.00	105.00
C	40.00	40.00	50.00	40.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	100.00

Outdoor
 Dry Pad -
 charged per
 hour

	Resident Community (90 percent TO Residency)				Non Resident (Not for Profit)				Commercial
Categories	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	Child \$	Youth \$	Adult \$	Senior \$	All \$
Premier	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
A	0.00	0.00	15.00	7.50	10.00	10.00	20.00	10.00	50.00
B	0.00	0.00	15.00	7.50	10.00	10.00	20.00	10.00	50.00
C	0.00	0.00	15.00	7.50	10.00	10.00	20.00	10.00	50.00

Attachment 2

Approved Guiding Principles for Harmonized Permit Rates

The following are the guiding principles approved by Council that were used to guide the harmonization of permit rates.

- (1) Consistency: The proposed rate structure should be harmonized and consistent among facilities, usage categories and user groups and applicable across the entire City of Toronto.
- (2) Clarity: The rates must be clearly laid out for each category of use and easily understood by both permit users and staff.

- (3) Gradual transition: Any upward pressure on rates must be phased in over a minimum period of one year in order to provide groups adequate time to adjust to changes in rates, gauge impact on their particular groups and communicate these issues to their members and users.
- (4) Rates gauged to facility types and quality: Rates charged for specific facilities must be reflective of the amenities that are available; therefore, facilities with more amenities and services would charge a higher fee than those facilities with minimal amenities and services.
- (5) Access and equity: There must be a specific access policy which will allow priority groups who may not be able to afford significant fees to permit and use facilities. Clear guidelines on situations where fees can be discounted or waived must be included.
- (6) Reflective of Council and City priorities: The Mayor and City Council have identified nine priorities for their term of office as well as specific priorities for Parks and Recreation, as expressed in its Strategic Plan. The plan called for setting priorities for specific target groups in order to stimulate participation in physical activity. These priorities should be reflected in the proposed rate structure.

Attachment 3
 General Permit Policies of Former Municipalities

Basic premise of permit rate policies in former municipalities, that still exist today. There may be an anomaly at some specialty facilities.

Former Municipality	Gyms	Rooms	Kitchens	Dry Pads	Tennis Courts	Sports fields
East York	Charged	Charged	Free	Charged	Free	Charged
Etobicoke	Charged	Charged	Charged	Charged	Free	Charged
Metro	Charged	Charged	Charged	Charged	Charged	Charged
North York	Charged for Adults and Free for Youth	Free (charge for private)	Free	Charged	Free	Charged for Adults Free for Children/Youth
Scarborough	Charged	Charged	Charged	Charged	Free	Charged for Adults Free for Children/Youth
Toronto	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
York	N/A	N/A	N/A	Charged	N/A	Charged for Adults Free for Children/Youth

Note: In 2002, the South District (former City of Toronto) implemented interim permit rates, that charged for facilities such as gymnasiums and rooms, that were free prior to 2002.

Attachment 4
Comparison of Proposed Rates to Other Providers
 (does not include Premier Facilities)

Category and Facility Classification		GYM - Hourly rates (\$)				
		Vaughan	Mississauga	TDSB *Does not include \$20.00 administration fee or fees for equipment or staff	Toronto Current (Range of seven former municipalities)	Toronto Proposed
Adult	A	-	47	5.50	0 - 47.08	40
	B	66	36	4.50		30
	C	-	18	-		20
Senior	A	-	47	11.50	0 - 47.08	20
	B	66	36	3.50		15
	C	-	18	-		10
Youth	A	-	47	11.50	0 - 47.08	20
	B	66	36	3.50		10
	C	-	18	-		5
Child	A	-	47	11.50	0 - 47.08	20
	B	66	36	3.50		10
	C	-	18	-		5
Non-Resident		75	-	-	-	20 - 80
Private		-	64	-	50 - 111	20 - 80
Not for Profit		-	-	19.50 A 5.50 B	30 - 67.50	-
Commercial		68	82	-		60 - 100

N.B. Vaughan multi-purpose room used for sports and Mississauga gym is comparable to B gym in Toronto classification.

Category and Facility Classification		Rooms – Various time allotments (\$)				
		Vaughan (3 hour+)	Mississauga (hourly)	TDSB (hourly) *Does not include \$20.00 administration fee or fees for equipment or staff	Toronto Current (Range of seven former municipalities hourly)	Toronto Proposed (3 hour)
Adult	A	-	17/59	93	0 - 142	60
	B	41/88	17/37	47		45
	C	45/68	11/24	2		30
Senior	A	-	-	68	0 - 142	30
	B	41/88	-	35		0
	C	45/68	11/24	1.75		0
Youth	A	-	-	68	0 - 105	20
	B	41/88	-	35		0
	C	45/68	11/24	1.75		0
Child	A	-	-	68	0 - 105	20
	B	41/88	-	35		0
	C	45/68	11/24	1.75		0
Non-Resident		60 - 126	-	-		30 - 120
Private		-	34	-		30 - 120
Not for Profit		-	29	118 A , 59 B, 2.50 C		-
Commercial		52 -130	47	-		60 - 120

N.B. Vaughan and Mississauga charge by how room is used i.e. meeting vs. party. Both rates listed.

Category and Facility Classification		Indoor Dry Pads - Hourly rates (\$)				
		Vaughan	Mississauga	TDSB *Does not include \$20.00 administration fee or fees for equipment or staff	Toronto Current (Range of seven former municipalities)	Toronto Proposed
Adult	A	-	-	-	26 - 65	60
	B	87/109/150	37/101	-		55
	C	-	-	-		50
Senior	A	-	-	-	26 - 65	50
	B	87/109/150	-	-		45
	C	-	-	-		40
Youth	A	-	-	-	26 - 65	50
	B	87/109/150	16/40/101	-		45
	C	-	-	-		40
Child	A	-	-	-	26 - 65	50
	B	87/109/150	16/40/101	-		45
	C	-	-	-		40
Non-Resident	98/128/200	70	-	-	50 - 110	
Private	-	142	-	30 - 77	50 - 110	
Not for Profit	-	123	-	-	-	
Commercial	90/114/185	205	-	-	100 - 130	

N.B. Vaughan and Mississauga charge by how Dry Pad is used i.e., sports/general use/ party. Comparable rates listed.

Category and Facility Classification		Sports Fields - Hourly rates (\$)				
		Vaughan	Mississauga	TDSB *Does not include \$20.00 administration fee or fees for equipment or staff	Toronto Current (Range of seven former municipalities)	Toronto Proposed
Adult	A	-	22.40	-	5.35 – 32.50	21.40
	B		13.60	6.25/16.75		10.70
	C	-	8.80	-		5.40
Senior	A	-	-	-	0 – 32.50	10.70
	B		-	2/8.25		5.35
	C	-	-	-		2.70
Youth	A	-	-	-	0 – 32.50	0
	B	-	-	2/8.25		0
	C	-	-	-		0
Child	A	-	-	-	0 – 32.50	0
	B	-	-	2/8.25		0
	C	-	-	-		0
Non-Resident				-	-	5.40 – 21.40
Private		-	-	-	-	5.40 – 21.40
Not for Profit		-	-	9.35/25	-	-
Commercial		-	44.80/27.20/ 17.60	-	-	6.50 – 26

N.B. TDSB rates are Baseball diamonds/Soccer fields. Limited information available for Mississauga. No information available from Vaughan

**Attachment 5
Criteria to Rate Amenities at Facilities**

Category	Criteria	Rating	Examples
Gymnasiums	wood floor, triple gym, ceiling height, scoreboard, stands, dedicated change rooms with showers	Premier	Amesbury CC
	double gym, other type flooring other than wood is acceptable, marked floor, scoreboard, ceiling height, basketball hoops, post sleeves, change rooms	A	Armour Heights Ellesmere CC North Toronto Etobicoke Olympium
	single gym, other type flooring other than wood is acceptable, floor markings	B	Jimmie Simpson James S. Bell Flemingdon Oakdale
	Low ceiling height, limited to no floor markings	C	Antibes Elmbank Mid Scarborough Regent Park
Rooms	capacity for more than 300 people, dedicated washrooms, tables, chairs	Premier	West Rouge
	capacity for 151 – 300 people (cannot exceed 300 people if the other premier amenities are not available)	A	Heron Park Earl Bales Keele
	capacity for 51 – 150 people	B	Humber Sheppard Alderwood Pool Birchmount Beaches
	capacity must not exceed 50 people	C	Agincourt Albion HC Brown CC Driftwood
Kitchens	Commercial grade appliances / equipment (may include fire safety suppression system), plates, cutlery, teaching counter	Premier	Etobicoke Olympium Mitchell Field
	domestic appliances/equipment, teaching counter	A	L'Amoreaux RC Amesbury Gord and Irene Risk
	domestic appliances/equipment	B	Falstaff JJ Piccininni Burrows Hall
	counter appliances	C	Antibes East York CC Thistle town
Dry Pads	Same ratings approved as per implementation of Ice Rates.		
Sports fields	Same ratings approved as per implementation of adult Sports Field rates.		

The Economic Development and Parks Committee also submits the report (April 21, 2005) from the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation:

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to respond to the requests for further information arising from the March 10, 2005 meeting of the Economic Development and Parks Committee during the consideration of the Report on Harmonized Permit Rates.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications on Parks, Forestry and Recreation's 2005 Operating Budget resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that this report be received for information.

Background:

At its meeting of March 10, 2005, the Economic Development and Parks Committee considered a report titled "Harmonized Permit Rates". The Committee requested further information to be reported back and deferred the consideration of the report to their meeting of April 28, 2005.

This report provides information regarding the impact of reducing rates to \$0.00 under the Resident Community category for children and youth in gymnasiums rated B and C and for indoor dry pads rated B and C. Also requested by the Committee was a synopsis of current permit rates and other information that would be helpful to all members of Council and the feasibility of free time for the use of dry pads for children and youth.

Comments:

Financial Impact of Reducing Rates for Children and Youth:

The initial fee model was based on a permit fee framework that was approved by the Economic Development and Parks Committee and Council on the premise of being revenue neutral. If adopted by Council, the proposed fee structure, when implemented in 2006, would have no impact on the projected permit revenue for Parks, Forestry and Recreation, based on existing usage volume and patterns. Staff considered existing rates, demand for facilities, changes to TDSB and TCDSB rates, allocation changes, and legacy policies and practices for a variety of groups in developing the new rate proposals.

The financial impact of eliminating fees for Resident Community children and youth in B and C rated gymnasiums and indoor dry pads is \$266,690.00 annually based on the current usage volumes. If the revenue neutral model is to be maintained, the fees for other age categories will need to be increased significantly to compensate for the loss of revenue in this category. Alternatively, the new fee structure will no longer be revenue neutral and there will be a negative financial impact of \$266,690.00 on Parks, Forestry and Recreation's operating budget. The

negative financial impact may be adjusted upward if more children and youth groups use the free facilities. Since staff will be reporting back on changes to the usage pattern, revenue shifts and impact of school board permit fees on an annual basis, it is proposed that this reduction of rates for children and youth not proceed until a full impact of the permit allocation policy and permit rates can be assessed.

Legacy Rates:

Attachment 1 provides an outline of the current permit rates that are being charged based on existing legacy arrangements. This information is provided based on facility categories in former municipalities.

Indoor Dry Pads - Free Usage:

The Committee also requested that staff consider the feasibility of free time for the use of indoor dry pads for children and youth. Indoor dry pads are specific facilities, usually indoor arena floors, which are used for organized sports activities such as lacrosse, and ball hockey in the summer season. They are used primarily by organized youth and adult groups for these activities, and in general, are not suitable for drop-in or casual use by children and youth, due to limited amenities and the seasonal nature of these operations. Where possible, staff program these locations if there are no other suitable program locations available. Hence, it is not recommended that this kind of drop in and casual use be expanded at these locations.

Conclusions:

The original fee model proposed by the Division was based on a framework that was projected to maintain the current revenue streams. This was a very difficult and complex task to balance off the overall objectives of the “Our Common Grounds” Strategic Plan with an existing revenue target, while minimizing impacts on organized groups across the entire City of Toronto. The result of this process is the fee structure that was recommended in the February 25, 2005 report to Committee. Any changes to individual components of the fee structure will have implications on overall revenue. Staff propose awaiting further information on the shifts in permit usage and volume with the introduction of the permit allocation policy and harmonized permit rates before making any adjustments in the rates proposed in the harmonized fee proposal.

Contact:

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List of Attachments:

Attachment No. 1- Overview of Current Permit Rates

Existing Permit Fees for Dry Pad, Gymnasiums, AIR's, Rooms/Kitchens, and Outdoor Sports Fields

Rates as of March 1, 2005
 Rates do not include additional charges

District/Former Municipality	Facility Class	Community		Non-Profit Equivalent		Private SOP	Comments
		Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult		
Indoor Dry Pad							
East York		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Etiobicoke		\$26.00	\$41.50	\$55.00	\$62.30	\$100.00	
Etiobicoke	Premier	\$50.00	\$50.00	n/a	n/a	\$100.00	\$110/155.70 Rate per night for Season
Metro		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
North York		\$55.00	\$55.00	n/a	n/a	\$232.00	
North York	Premier	\$65.00	\$65.00	n/a	n/a	\$232.00	
Scarborough		\$47.08	\$59.92	\$59.92	\$62.06	n/a	
Toronto		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
York		\$48.15	\$74.90	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Outdoor Dry Pad							
East York		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Etiobicoke		\$10.40	\$10.40	\$10.40	\$10.40	\$10.40	
Metro		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
North York		\$12.25	\$12.25	\$12.25	\$12.25	\$12.25	\$15.00 with lights
Scarborough		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Toronto		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	n/a	
York		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Outdoor Sports Fields							
East York	A	\$1.00	\$21.40	\$1.00	\$21.40	n/a	
East York	B	\$1.00	\$10.70	\$1.00	\$10.70	n/a	
East York	C	\$1.00	\$5.35	\$1.00	\$5.35	n/a	
Etiobicoke	A	\$4.73	\$21.40	\$4.73	\$21.40	n/a	
Etiobicoke	B	\$3.54	\$10.70	\$3.54	\$10.70	n/a	
Etiobicoke	C	\$2.36	\$5.35	\$2.36	\$5.35	n/a	
Metro	Premier	\$10.29-\$32.50	\$10.29-\$32.51	\$10.29-\$32.52	\$10.29-\$32.53	\$10.29-\$32.54	Season Discount for greater than 17 weeks
North York	A	\$0.00	\$21.40	\$0.00	\$21.40	n/a	
North York	B	\$0.00	\$10.70	\$0.00	\$10.70	n/a	
North York	C	\$0.00	\$5.35	\$0.00	\$5.35	n/a	
Scarborough	A	\$0.00	\$21.40	\$0.00	\$21.40	n/a	
Scarborough	B	\$0.00	\$10.70	\$0.00	\$10.70	n/a	
Scarborough	C	\$0.00	\$5.35	\$0.00	\$5.35	n/a	
Toronto	A	\$0.00	\$21.40	\$0.00	\$21.40	n/a	
Toronto	B	\$0.00	\$10.70	\$0.00	\$10.70	n/a	
Toronto	C	\$0.00	\$5.35	\$0.00	\$5.35	n/a	
York	A	\$0.00	\$21.40	\$0.00	\$21.40	n/a	
York	B	\$0.00	\$10.70	\$0.00	\$10.70	n/a	
York	C	\$0.00	\$5.35	\$0.00	\$5.35	n/a	

Existing Permit Fees for Dry Pad, Gymnasiums, AIR's, Rooms/Kitchens, and Outdoor Sports Fields

Rates as of March 1, 2005
 Rates do not include additional charges

District/Former Municipality

Facility Class	Community		Non-Profit Equivalent		Community SOP	Private	Private SOP	Comments
	Youth	Adult	Youth	Adult				
Gym								
East York	\$0.00	\$32.10	\$32.10	\$32.10	\$111.00	\$111.00	\$111.00	
Etobicoke	\$0.00 - 21.40	\$21.4 - \$250	\$0.00 - 21.40	\$21.4 - \$250	Negotiated	Negotiated	Negotiated	
Metro	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
North York	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25.50	\$25.50	\$30.00	\$102.00	\$852.00	
Scarborough	\$24.72	\$47.08	\$47.08	\$47.08	\$630.00	\$852.00	\$70.00	
Toronto	\$0.00	\$27.50	\$0.00	\$27.50	\$47.50	\$50.00	\$105.00	
York	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$67.50	\$75.00	n/a	Badminton is \$42.80/booking
	\$0.00	\$21.40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Room/Kitchen								
East York	\$0.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$111.00	\$111.00	\$111.00	
Etobicoke	\$0.00	\$0.00 - \$100	\$0.00 - \$100	\$0.00 - \$100	Negotiated	Negotiated	Negotiated	
Metro	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
North York	\$0.00	\$0.00	n/a	n/a	\$30.00	\$102.00	\$432.00	
Scarborough	\$0.00	\$36.38	\$42.37	\$42.37	\$325.00	\$687.00	\$687.00	
	\$0.00	\$36.38	\$42.37	\$42.37	\$513.00	\$852.00	\$852.00	
Toronto	\$0.00	\$17.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$27.50	\$27.50	\$37.50	
York	\$0.00	\$27.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$47.50	\$37.50	\$57.50	
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
AIR								
East York	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
North York	\$69.55	\$34.24	\$69.55	\$34.24	n/a	n/a	n/a	
South York	\$69.55	\$0.00	\$69.55	\$0.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	
West York	\$69.55	\$34.24	\$69.55	\$34.24	n/a	n/a	n/a	

The Economic Development and Parks Committee also considered the communication (April 28, 2005) from the Children's Aid Society of Toronto, and a copy is on file in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall.