Resolution #327/17

Moved by Councillor Pickles
Seconded by Councillor Butt

That the rules of procedure be suspended and leave be granted to introduce the following Notice of Motion.

Carried on 2/3 Majority Vote

Resolution #328/17

Moved by Councillor Pickles
Seconded by Councillor Butt

That the rules of procedure be suspended in order to allow an additional delegation to come forward.

Motion Lost on 2/3 Majority

Resolution #329/17

Moved by Councillor Pickles
Seconded by Councillor Butt

Discussion ensued with Members noting concerns that the inclusion of this motion would negatively impact the Federal Government’s position with respect to the development of an airport. Members also pointed out that a rail line runs through the area noted on the map, indicating this would not be conducive to a National Park.

WHEREAS: 5,200 acres of land in the City of Pickering are being transferred to the new Rouge National Urban Park;

WHEREAS: it is desirable to provide appropriate gateways and natural linkages between the Rouge National Urban Park and the surrounding land and adjacent communities in the City of Pickering;

WHEREAS: there are two areas that particularly could have better connections by adding additional Federal lands to the Rouge National Urban Park: one is an area to link the Rouge National Urban Park with Seaton (area A – approximately 551 acres on the attached map) and
the other area is a link adjacent to the southwest Hamlet of Claremont (generally shown as area B – approximately 358 acres on the attached map). These maps were received by the Green Durham Association;

WHEREAS: Although these two areas (A & B) are within the designated airport site, they are also included in the Green Belt and neither is likely, due to their natural features, to be used for airport uses;

NOW THEREFORE the City of Pickering requests that the Federal Government consider adding the lands generally shown as A and B on the attached map, in order to enhance linkages between the Rouge National Urban Park and the developing community of Seaton and the Hamlet of Claremont, both in the City of Pickering;

NOW THEREFORE in considering these land additions, the Federal Government consult with tenants, adjacent landowners, stakeholders, Provincial Government and City of Pickering;

NOW THEREFORE that the Federal Government confirm that the addition of these lands to the Rouge National Urban Park would be neutral, neither support nor discourage, the consideration of the development of an airport in Pickering;

NOW THEREFORE this motion be copied to Jennifer O’Connell, MP, Pickering-Uxbridge, The Honourable Tracy MacCharles, MPP, Pickering-Scarborough East, Joe Dickson, MPP Ajax-Pickering and the Region of Durham.

Resolution #330/17

Moved by Councillor Pickles
Seconded by Councillor Butt

That the following clause be amended to read as follows:

NOW THEREFORE that the Federal Government confirm that the addition of these lands to the Rouge National Urban Park would be neutral, neither support nor discourage, the consideration of the development of an airport in Pickering and would not impact any decision regarding the enhancement of the rail line.

Motion Lost on a Recorded Vote as Follows

Yes
Councillor Ashe
Councillor Butt
Councillor Pickles

No
Councillor Brenner
Councillor Cumming
Deputy Mayor McLean

The main motion was then lost on a recorded vote as follows:
(VIII) By-laws

7564/17 Being a by-law to amend Schedule A of By-law 247/75 regulating the discharge of firearms within the City of Pickering.

7565/17 Being a by-law to authorize the Pickering Recreation Complex Roof Repairs project in the City of Pickering and the issuance of debentures in the amount of $550,000.00.

7566/17 Being a by-law to amend By-law 6604/05 providing for the regulating of traffic and parking, standing and stopping on highways or parts of highways under the jurisdiction of the City of Pickering and on private and municipal property.

7567/17 Being a By-law to amend Restricted Area (Zoning) By-law 3036, as amended, to implement the Official Plan of the City of Pickering, Region of Durham, being Part of Lot 29, Range 3 BFC, Part 1, 40R-5809, Except Part 5, 40R-6139, and Part 2 40R-28802, City of Pickering. (A 08/16)

7568/17 Being a by-law to establish the 2017 final property taxes and due date for the Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Residential Tax Classes.

7569/17 Being a By-law to adopt Amendment 30 to the Official Plan for the City of Pickering. (OPA 15-002/P)

7570/17 Being a By-law to amend Restricted Area (Zoning) By-law 3036, as amended, to implement the Official Plan of the City of Pickering, Region of Durham, Plan 388, Part of Lots 2 and 3, City of Pickering. (OPA 15-002/P and A 12/15)

7571/17 Being a by-law to authorize the Supply and Delivery of Street Sweeper project in the City of Pickering and the issuance of debentures in the amount of $250,000.00.

7572/17 Being a by-law to authorize the Construction of the New Operations Centre project in the City of Pickering and the issuance of debentures in the amount of $9,907,000.00 for the Development Charges-Operations Services Reserve Fund funding of the New Operations Centre project, and that the first source of repayment for this debt is future development charge collections.
Green Durham Association wants Seaton, Claremont linked to Rouge National Urban Park

News Jun 27, 2017 by Kristen Calis Pickering News Advertiser

PICKERING -- Lynn Laflamme and Brian Buckles, members of Green Durham, posed for a photo at a proposed gateway connecting portions of Claremont and Seaton with Rouge National Urban Park. June 16, 2017. - Ryan Pfeiffer / Metroland

PICKERING — A charity dedicated to protecting, preserving and enhancing local forests, farmlands and natural areas, wants to see an area of Seaton and Claremont added to Rouge National Urban Park.

The two areas they’re asking the federal government to link to the park make up roughly 900 acres.

“We believe this is a better configuration for the park,” said Green Durham Association member Lynn Laflamme.
In 2015, the federal government transferred 5,200 acres of land in Pickering that was earmarked for a potential airport, to Rouge National Urban Park (RNUP).

Green Durham was grateful for this but said the extension doesn’t connect the park with population centres.

A southern addition of 551 acres in Seaton would create a gateway between RNUP and Seaton and to conservation lands within Seaton.

Seaton is being built for 70,000 residents and 35,000 jobs, and Green Durham feels the addition would add to the quality of life, the value and attractiveness of the real estate, and the economic vitality of Seaton. Such a connection would also protect Reesor Creek.

If 358 acres of federal land west and south of Claremont was added to the RNUP, the park would be linked directly east to Claremont.

The land Green Durham is recommending for the addition would not utilize any lands necessary for a possible future airport and would provide a narrow buffer from the airport lands themselves.

After they received the support from their local member of parliament, they moved on to the City of Pickering.

Ward 3 regional Coun. David Pickles supports the proposal and attempted to gain council’s support to ask the federal government to consider adding these lands to RNUP at the last meeting before summer break.

“I think it would be advantageous to the residents of Pickering to add these lands to the park to better connect the communities of Seaton and Claremont to this great new park,” he said before the motion hit the floor. “It could help establish trails and trail heads so Pickering residents have formal and safe access to the park.”

However, it didn’t go as he thought, and council did not support his request.

Ward 1 city Coun. Maurice Brenner shared concerns that it might be difficult to build a much anticipated high-speed rail network with this connection in place.

He acknowledged the York-Durham Heritage Railway train goes through Oak Ridges Moraine from Uxbridge to Stouffville and back.

“But this isn’t about a scenic route, this is about a transportation hub and a transportation corridor,” he said.

Coun. Pickles tried to introduce a motion that this request wouldn't have any impact on high-speed rail, but it too was not accepted by his fellow councillors.
“There are other railways that pass through parks. I don't think they’re mutually exclusive,” Pickles said.

Ward 1 regional Coun. Kevin Ashe was concerned that the motion might impact the federal government’s decision-making process on whether an airport should or should not go ahead in Pickering.

To both Pickles and Laflamme, this was a non-issue.

“We were looking at lands that couldn't be used as an airport,” Laflamme said.

Pickles explained although the lands are within the possible airport site, their natural features would likely keep them from being part of an airport, if it were to go ahead in the end.

“Quite frankly, we're surprised that the motion wasn’t passed. This is a good news story,” Laflamme said.

Green Durham will talk to the councillors that didn’t support the motion in order to understand their true concerns.

"We're going to pursue this," Laflamme said.