

Natural Environment Parks

call 3-1-1 www.calgary.ca/parks



UPDATE – Nose Hill Park MAY 2007

LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES BEGIN

Work in Nose Hill Park is underway!

Our first step in the park this April was to mow the grass and prune the shrubs along the pathway and upper plateau trail alignments to better protect the wildlife in the park from construction activities. Take a look at the attached photographs for a sample of our handy work.

In addition to this work, the pathways construction contractor began their work on April 30th by installing tree protection and safety fencing along the pathway route in Many Owls Valley. The first kilometer of the pathway that is set to be constructed will extend from the Brisebois Drive parking lot, through Many Owls Valley, up to the southern edge of the multi-use zone. If the weather cooperates with us, this first kilometer should be completed by early June.

Just a quick reminder that your access to the park might be limited during the construction period. We will try and keep you as up to date as possible by posting trail closures signs and recommended detours at key park entrances and on The City of Calgary website (www.calgary.ca/parks).

THE CITY OF CALGARY & CALGARY WINTER CLUB – LAND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT

One of the recommendations that came out of the Nose Hill Trail & Pathway Plan, was to "continue discussions with the Calgary Winter Club regarding the development of an agreement to designate parking for Nose Hill Park users, and discuss opportunities for expanding parking at this location". Over the past year, Parks has been working to address this recommendation. We are proud to report that The City of Calgary now has an agreement with the Winter Club that addresses that recommendation. The terms of the agreement include:

- A land exchange of City-owned and Club-owned land will take place.
- The City will gain an additional 0.5 acres of land that will be incorporated into Nose Hill Park. This land has greater ecological significance and will be a welcome addition.
- The Winter Club will construct a new parking lot and washroom facility for the use of Nose Hill Park users
- A public access agreement that will ensure the public can continue to access the park from the Winter Club parking lot
- There will be up to 40 parking stalls available for Nose Hill Park and Winter Club users on the newly constructed parking lot
- The Winter Club will assist Nose Hill Park in the restoration of the exchange lands

The attachment to this brochure will provide more details on the proposed land exchange. We are anticipating that City Council will be considering the land exchange land report, which incorporates the above, at the Council meeting in June 2007. We will circulate an update as soon as additional details on the Council meeting are finalized.

CHARLESWOOD DRIVE PARK ENTRANCE

As recommended in the Nose Hill Trail & Pathway Plan, the Charleswood Drive park entrance was permanently closed on May 1 to increase the safety for the park users. Notification signs about the closure have been posted at both the former park entrance and on the south side of John Laurie Boulevard. Users are now being encouraged to make use of the newly constructed pedestrian overpass at Brisebois Drive.

For more information on this project, please visit the website at www.calgary.ca/parks

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Mowing and shrub pruning activities were completed in April to clearly define the pathway and upper plateau trail alignments and contribute towards the protection of wildlife in the park from planned construction activities.



Contractors began work in Many Owls Valley on April 30th. Crews immediately began work installing tree protection and safety fencing along the pathway route in Many Owls Valley.

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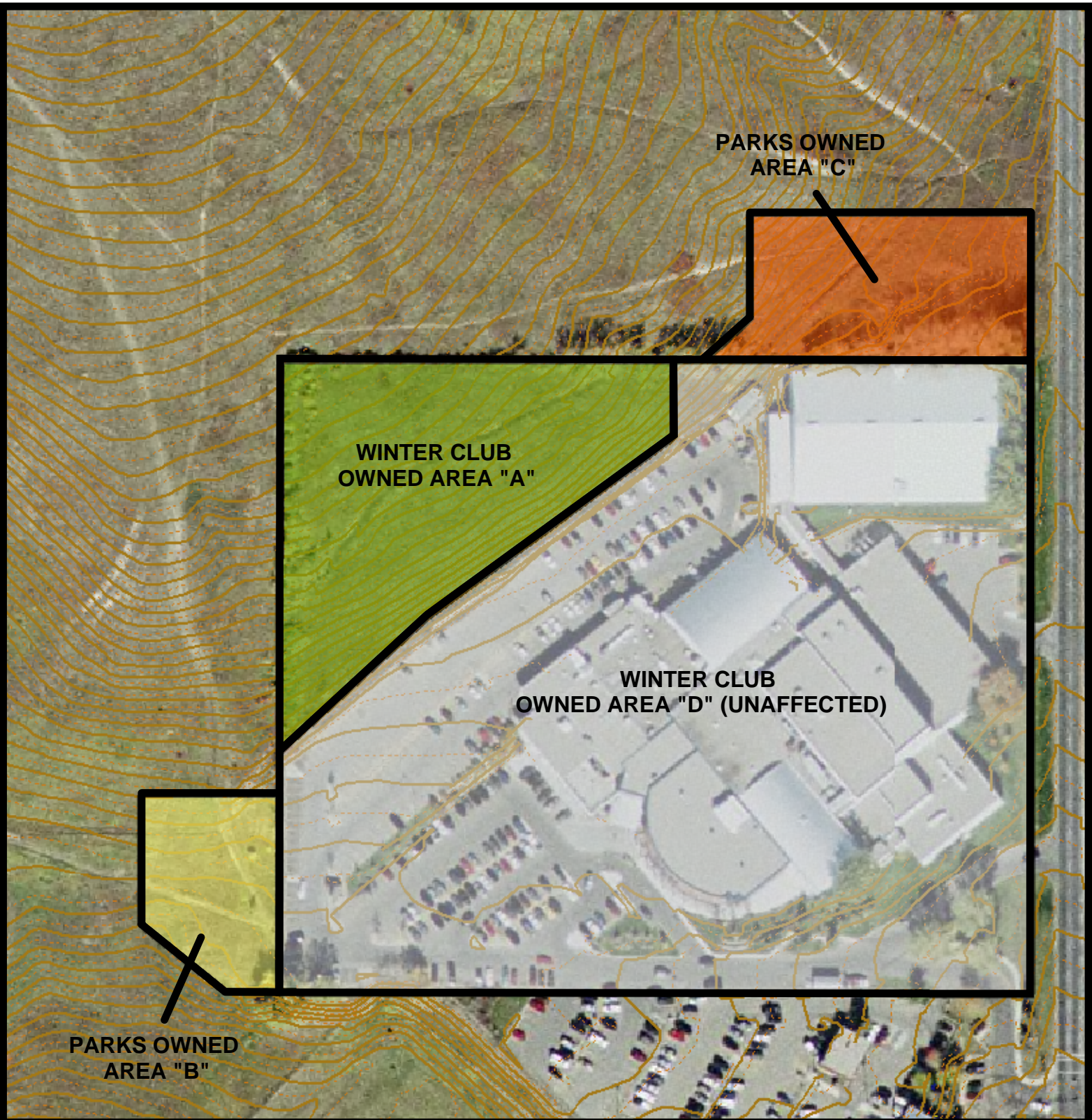
A summary of the land exchange agreement between The City of Calgary and Calgary Winter Club are listed below. It is anticipated that City Council will be considering the land exchange land report, which incorporates the information described below, at the Council meeting in June 2007. An update will be circulated when additional details on the Council meeting are finalized.

Details:

- The Calgary Winter Club-owned land (Area A - approximately 1.9 acres) will be exchanged with City-owned land (Areas B and C - totaling 1.4 acres).
- The City will be receiving approximately half an acre more land than it is exchanging.
- Through the agreement, the Winter Club will receive 1.4 acres of land, including:
 - The first, Area B, is in the south corner at the entrance to the walking paths of Nose Hill Park. This land will be developed by the Winter Club into a parking lot for 40 – 50 cars, complete with a small outdoor washroom.
 - The second, Area C, is north of the tennis centre. Currently, the Winter Club does not have a plan for this site. Potential developments on this site may include both parking and building expansion.
- The City and the Winter Club will enter into a formal agreement that will grant Nose Hill Park users and Winter Club members access to and parking in Area B. Additionally, the Club will assist in the restoration of sections of Area A.
- The Winter Club will be responsible for all costs associated with construction and maintenance of the parking lot on Area B.
- See attached map outlining land exchange boundaries.





Benefits:

- An independent Biophysical Assessment study was initiated by the Winter Club, which concluded that the Club would be giving up more semi-native grassland in exchange for the completely non-native disturbed grasslands currently on the City owned parcels.
- Nose Hill Park will increase in size by half an acre.
- The visual landscape of Nose Hill Park will be maintained, since The City will gain ownership of the hillside behind the Winter Club, ensuring the land is not developed by the Winter Club.
- New parking lot and outdoor washroom to be constructed at no cost to taxpayers.
- The public will continue to have the ability to park on Winter Club land and will have use of an outdoor washroom.
- Winter Club will provide on-going maintenance of the parking lot at no cost to taxpayers.
- Winter Club will restore areas of exchange lands at no cost to taxpayers.



**The City of Calgary & Calgary Winter Club
Proposed Land Exchange Boundaries**

May 2, 2007

-  Area "A" - Calgary Winter Club Owned Land
-  Area "B" - The City of Calgary Parks Owned Land
-  Area "C" - The City of Calgary Parks Owned Land
-  Area "D" - Unaffected Calgary Winter Club Owned Land

