

SAVE OUR PARK

STOP THE SALE & DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY'S PARK

To the Attention of the Mayor and City of Vaughan Local and Regional Councilor's
Re: Proposed Sale & Development of the city park adjacent to the Vaughan Sports Village by the Mentana Group

We, the South Maple Ratepayers Association, are not in agreement of the proposed project by the Mentana Group, to develop the city's park.

Parks are given to the City of Vaughan as Sacred Trust for our benefit and for the entire community to use, therefore; should **NEVER** be developed.

This \$154 Million development, proposed by the Mentana Group, is a grand development, however, not suited for the proposed location. We, the South Maple Ratepayers Association, agree that this elaborate project and development would be better suited at an alternate location, not in our small residential community.

THIS PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WOULD BE FAR BETTER SUITED AWAY FROM A RESIDENTIAL AREA.

Some of the concerns are the following:

- LOSS OF THE CITY'S PARK
- loss of 24-7 access to the city's park
- Safety: with the added traffic and the transient population coming into our neighborhood
- traffic congestion is a HUGE concern for all with the Maple area, our community is already so congested
- Increased noise levels and lights, evenings and weekends with the Arena/Event Centre and Amphitheater
- eye sore to the entire community
- 2-storey track, eye level with residents bedroom windows
- the sale of this land for a proposed \$10 Million, with the balance of project at the cost of the tax payers

This proposed private gated facility, is for the use of a select few, these amenities are not for the benefit or use of the neighborhood or the community.

With the proposed loss of revenue stemming from the sale of the land, the City of Vaughan could have built a Community Centre or grand facility for all residents of Maple/Vaughan to utilize.

We, the South Maple Ratepayers Association, feel that the only person that will gain from this project is the developer, not the community.

To date, the Mentana Group has NOT maintained the promises that were initially proposed at the time the Sports Village was built, such as the following:

- The free skateboard park was removed and replaced with a pay per use Volleyball Park. The Mentana Group removed this amenity on their own accord, without approval by the city.
- The outdoor skate path, no longer exists and is in disrepair. For the past 10 years this has been wasted space not utilized by the community because it has been so poorly maintained by the Mentana Group. At one point, the Mentana Group tried to charge families for its use
- The Mentana Group told residents we could have the opportunity for free family skate within the Sports Village. To date, there has been no opportunity for recreational skating at the Sports Village for families neither, free, or paid. The sole use of the Sports Village has been for paid organized hockey associations and groups only.

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As a community, we are baffled that the City of Vaughan could even entertain the idea of this sort of development in our community, which will only serve to the families belonging to the Berkley Academy, **NOT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY OR RESIDENTS.**

We, the South Maple Ratepayers Association, are looking for your support to stop any further negotiations, studies or discussions, regarding this proposed development or any other of its kind and to assist our association in saving the city's park. This, and any park, should be left in the hands of the community, for all to utilize.

The residents of Maple have lived in this community for almost 20 years, our families, our children, have grown up with this beautiful park. Our children have played T-Ball on the baseball diamond, roller-bladed along the path, and learned how to ride their bikes for the first time on the grass and pathway.

TOGETHER WE STAND AGAINST THE PROPOSED SALE & DEVELOPMENT OF THE CITY'S PARK.

We ask for your support to ensure this proposed development does not come to fruition, in the same manner in which you ask for our support at the time of voting elections.

At this time, the South Maple Ratepayers Association, is requesting Recommendation #2, - *"That a consultation meeting be held by staff with the applicant, at the applicant's expense, and area residents, to receive comments and concerns that need to be considered prior to an update report coming back to Council."*

We also request that any meetings regarding this proposed sale and development take place in the evening for all interested to attend.

***DO YOU SUPPORT THE SALE OF CITY PARKLAND?**

***DO YOU SUPPORT THE SALE OF PUBLIC ASSETS THROUGH UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS?**

***DO YOU SUPPORT THE SOUTH MAPLE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION, WHOM ARE AGAINST THIS PROJECT, IN EVERY ASPECT OF THE PROPOSAL?**

We are requesting your written support against the Mentana Group's proposal by September 24, 2018. This will form the basis for our collective support for you, as the SMRPA, the community, residents, and other Ratepayers Associations in Vaughan band together.

To date, the SMRPA is supported by the residents and community with a collection of hundreds of signatures against the proposal in question. We have also received support from the following associations:

1. KLEINBURG & AREA RATEPAYERS
2. MACKENZIE RIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
3. SPRINGFARM RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
4. VILLAGE OF WOODBRIDGE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION
5. KEEP VAUGHAN GREEN

Our list of supporters is growing every day.

Should you require more information or if you would like to speak to a South Maple Ratepayers Association member please call Laura Rinaldo at 416-399-6250. Alternatively, you can email us at SouthMapleRatePayers@gmail.com.

We look forward to receiving your letter of support and the opportunity to meet with you.

Sincerely;
Laura Rinaldo, President

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South Maple RatePayers Association (SMRPA)