

February 04, 2016

Appendix B

Shade Structure Locational Criteria

Shade structures are installed in multiple park locations in the city and at different times in the development and redevelopment process. Requests for new shade structures in existing Neighbourhood Parks have been increasing dramatically in recent years resulting in expenditures of over a \$1M tax/year in recent years. This phenomenon has prompted the suggestion that City needs to establish Locational Criteria and an Implementation Protocol, to assist in the formulation recommendations for funding new structures.

The following describes the process by which shade structures are considered and installed in parks in Brampton and provides the aforementioned criteria and protocols.

1. **'NEW' NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS** – The ***Open Space Development Section*** (*Engineering and Development Services Division - Planning and Infrastructure Services Department*) oversee the design and installation of these parks, developed through the development-approvals process.
 - The general provision level for new Neighbourhood Parks has historically been one (1) structure for every two (2) Neighbourhood Parks (based on available Development Charges collections)
 - There is an expressed desire (by Council and Senior Management) that this service level be increased to one (1) shade structure in each Neighbourhood Park (subject to stated criteria). The funding for the additional structures would need to be managed through developer contributions, until such time as DC contributions catch up through the DC review. Tax dollars are not contemplated to be used for the closure of the funding gap.

2. **COMMUNITY AND CITY PARKS** - The ***Capital Parks Construction Section*** (*Engineering and Development Services Division - Planning and Infrastructure*

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Services Department) designs, develops and redevelops these parks and coordinates installation of new shade structures.

- There is no specific ‘service level’ requirements with respect to shade structures installed in these park types — the number, dimension and location are a by-product of what activities these parks provide, or will offer.
3. **EXISTING NEIGHBOURHOOD PARKS** - The ***Capital Parks Construction Section*** is also responsible for the implementation of shade structures – managing both the redevelopment of existing structures or adding structures. ¹
- Requests for additional structures in existing Neighbourhood Parks have been the most active area of park redevelopment and have prompted the development of these criteria.
 - Requests come primarily from the public, who direct their requests to Ward Councillors, Public Works (Parks Operations) and /or Parks and Facility Planning staff. To date, no formal criteria have been established to assess and prioritize these requests. Likewise, there are no documented design and implementation procedures in place to provide oversight to their installation. This document is intended to provide both.
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¹ *In 2015, and in years prior, Parks Maintenance and Operations have been the primary division coordinating shade structure installation in existing parks. This is changing in 2016.*

LOCATIONAL CRITERIA

1.0 Applicability:

This criteria applies to new installations.

2.0 Park Size:

2.1 Shade structures should only be permitted in Neighbourhood Parks that are greater than 1.5 acres (0.61 ha).

2.2 Shade structure installations shall be limited to “active tableland” only. The active tableland portion of the park shall be least 0.5 ha in size.

3.0 Setbacks:

3.1 Locating of a new structure shall respect the following buffering requirements:

3.1.1 Shall not encroach on valley or natural heritage system (NHS) buffers

3.1.2 Shall be no closer than 20 m from a road ROW (without fencing); 10 m with fencing

3.1.3 Shall not encroach on sport field ‘payout’ buffer

3.1.4 Shall be at least 30m from residential properties

3.1.5 Shall be at least 15m from commercial properties

4.0 ‘Second’ Shade Structures:

The presence of an existing shade structure in a park will preclude consideration for a second structure, except in instances where the park is large (≥ 5 ac., meaning this would typically be large Neighbourhood Park or a Community or City Park) or under extraordinary circumstances.

5.0 Park Amenities and Adjacent Amenities:

5.1 The availability of shade provided by existing trees shall be taken into consideration (e.g., Bonnie Braes Park; Treleaven Park). Where existing trees provide adequate shade, other infrastructure can be considered to facilitate gathering – e.g. benches, picnic tables.

5.2 The availability of nearby public amenities that could provide adequate and comfortable gathering space shall be considered. If facilities like a public library,

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community centre or arena are 500m or less away from the park in which a request has been received for a new shade structure, then this will generally nullify a request.

5.3 Consideration shall be given to the types of activities, amenities, or facilities (indoor and outdoor) planned or currently located within the park that could provide adequate and comfortable gathering space.

6.0 Compatibility Requirements:

If the addition of a shade structure would create conflicts with existing users, to the extent that those uses are compromised, then the structure should not be considered. This includes situations where the structure would encroach into passive/free play areas (established for unstructured play) or, if 'overlook' will create discomfort for users (e.g. placement of a structure adjacent to a children's play-structure).

7.0 Type of Structure:

Where a request is deemed appropriate, having regard for the criteria noted above, then the type of structure recommended shall have regard for the type and size of the park. Namely:

7.1 Minor Structure (22' Octagon)

7.2 Major Structure (20' x 30' Rectangular)

7.3 Picnic Shelter (20' x 40' Rectangular)

COORDINATION OF SHADE STRUCTURE REQUESTS

1. Requests for new installations shall be remitted and documented through the ***Parks and Facility Planning Section*** (*Engineering and Development Services Division - Planning and Infrastructure Services Department*). **Parks and Facility Planning** will assess the merit of the request(s) using the criteria listed in this document, before rendering a recommendation for future year(s) budgets.
 2. Budget requests for shade structures will be included in the ***Engineering and Development Services***, Capital Parks Construction budget.
 3. Design and Installation of approved shade structures in existing or major parks shall be coordinated by the ***Capital Parks Construction Section*** in the Engineering and Development Services Division, in accordance with the steps noted in this document.
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