



**Meeting Date: July 5, 2023**

**Submitted by: Scott Mairs, Director of Community Services**

**Report No: CMS-05-2023**

**Subject: Request for Surplus Lands Resolution for Municipally Owned Properties**

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives Report CMS-05-2023 re: Request for Surplus Lands Resolution for Municipally Owned Properties;

AND THAT Council deems the municipally owned open space identified in Appendix A1 of this report as surplus;

AND THAT Council directs staff to proceed with the transfer of municipally owned properties known as PLAN 958 BLK B KOMOKA PARK RESERVE (River Flats Park), CON 1 S PT LOT 9 RP 33R6942 PARTS 13, 22 & 23, PLAN 33M454 BLK 39, PLAN 33M454 BLK 38 (Rivers Edge Park), and LOBO CON 1 PT LOT 7 CON BF PT LOT 7 PT RD ALLOW RP 33R19930 PARTS 27 TO 38 as shown on Appendix A1 (hereinafter referred to as the "Subject Lands"), which is deemed surplus to municipal needs;

AND FURTHER THAT staff be directed to proceed with disposal of the lands subject to the satisfaction of the retained municipality's solicitor, the Middlesex County Barrister & Solicitor's Office.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to proceed with the disposition of municipally owned properties which upon review by staff has been deemed surplus to the needs of the Municipality.

**Background:**

Since 2017, municipal staff and the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) have been working with the Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP) to expand the Komoka Provincial Park to include the subject lands deemed Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) north of the Thames River.

ANSI's (Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest) are polygon features that represent lands and waters containing important natural landscapes or features that are important for natural heritage, protection, appreciation, scientific study, or education.

**Analysis:**

Staff have identified the above subject lands as potential ANSI lands and are recommending that the ANSI lands be transferred to the Province of Ontario which would allow the expansion of the Komoka Provincial Park. Stewardship and management of the lands would become the responsibility of the province.

There have been ongoing meetings and dialogue with Conservation and MECP officials which are collaborative to move ahead with a smooth transition. It is anticipated that the ANSI lands transaction will be completed later this year and information is posted on the municipal website for residents to learn more about this natural habitat.

Pending Council approval, staff will proceed with the appropriate documentation to complete the transaction.

**Financial Implications:**

The cost to convey the lands to the MECP will be nominal and any revenue from the disposition of these lands will be placed in the proper reserve fund for future use. Any revenues from this transaction will be used to cover legal, survey and registration fees – fees that are required to transfer the subject lands.

**Strategic Plan:**

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Sustainable Infrastructure and Services
- Responsive Municipal Government

**Attachments:**

Appendix A1 – Property Map