

# PLANNING FOR MEMORIAL PARK & BETHESDA PARK

The 2001 Provincial census showed that Stouffville's population of school age children, youth, mid life and empty nester adults was higher than the provincial averages. The Town and its departments, overseen by the Mayor and Council, are committed to partnering with the community to provide services that sustain the quality of life for all members of the community.

Responding to the growing need for quality outdoor recreational services and spaces the Department of Leisure Services began a year long park and facility planning initiative in October 2004.

Master Plans are currently in the works for:

- the rejuvenation of downtown Stouffville's Memorial Park and
- the creation of Bethesda Park on 51 acres of land on Bethesda Sideroad, east of Ninth Line.

#### Format of Memorial Park:

The new Memorial Park will total 57 acres throughout the core of town and incorporate many existing parks. Major changes will include the extension of Park Drive through the park, removal of the Region of York Water Pollution Control plant, and the addition of new lands in the vicinity of the Lebovic Leisure Centre.

#### Status of Memorial Park Master Plan:

A public input and information sessions was held in January 2005. Watch for additional public input sessions to be held Fall 2005.



#### Format of Bethesda Park:

An undeveloped property on the Oak Ridges Moraine, the Municipality purchased this property in October, 2003. The focus of the 51 acre Bethesda Park will be outdoor sports facilities with consideration for the ecological/hydrological function of its Moraine land.

#### Status of Bethesda Park Master Plan:

Public input and information sessions held in January and April 2005 have advanced the project to the design stage. New baseball diamonds to be constructed in the Summer of 2006 will be ready for use in the Spring 2007. Watch for Fall 2005 dates for public viewing of the concept design.

For project progress, results to date, and to provide input visit: [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com) and click on the Memorial and Bethesda Park Master Plans link, or write to: Park Master Plans, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, Department of Leisure Services, 37 Sandiford Drive, 4th floor, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 7X5.

## Flipping for the New "OVER THE EDGE SKATEPARK"

It was out with the old wooden structures and in with new steel frames and concrete ramps at Over the Edge Skatepark. Weathered equipment was replaced with new state of the art portable Solo Ramp modular products in time for the Victoria Day long weekend. Inline skaters, skateboarders and BMX bikers of all levels can now perform flips, double peg grinds, and tail whips on three new quarter pipes, four pyramid ramps, rails, benches and boxes. After much research and consultation with users in the community the Solo ramps were chosen as the way to go for the skate park of the future. The maintenance free system is far more economical than the traditional permanent concrete facilities. New features can be added and there's freedom to move and change equipment to meet the needs of future users.

Kids love the new space and the variety it offers. There's more to do at the new Over the Edge Skatepark and you don't have to be on wheels to enjoy it. Spectators are always welcome!

#### Getting on Board - Skatepark Summer Camps:

To meet increasing demand Leisure Services has added more weeklong skateboarding camps this summer. For more information on these supervised camp sessions contact Jen McEachen at 905 640-1910, ext. 288 or visit [www.townofws.com](http://www.townofws.com), Leisure Services section.

*A Leisure Services operated park facility for the youth of Whitchurch-Stouffville since 1999, Over the Edge Skatepark is now unsupervised and free for everyone.*



## BYERS POND WAY NEIGHBOURHOOD PARK

**What:** A new 4.5 acre park where residents can meet and participate in recreational and leisure pursuits.

#### Design components include:

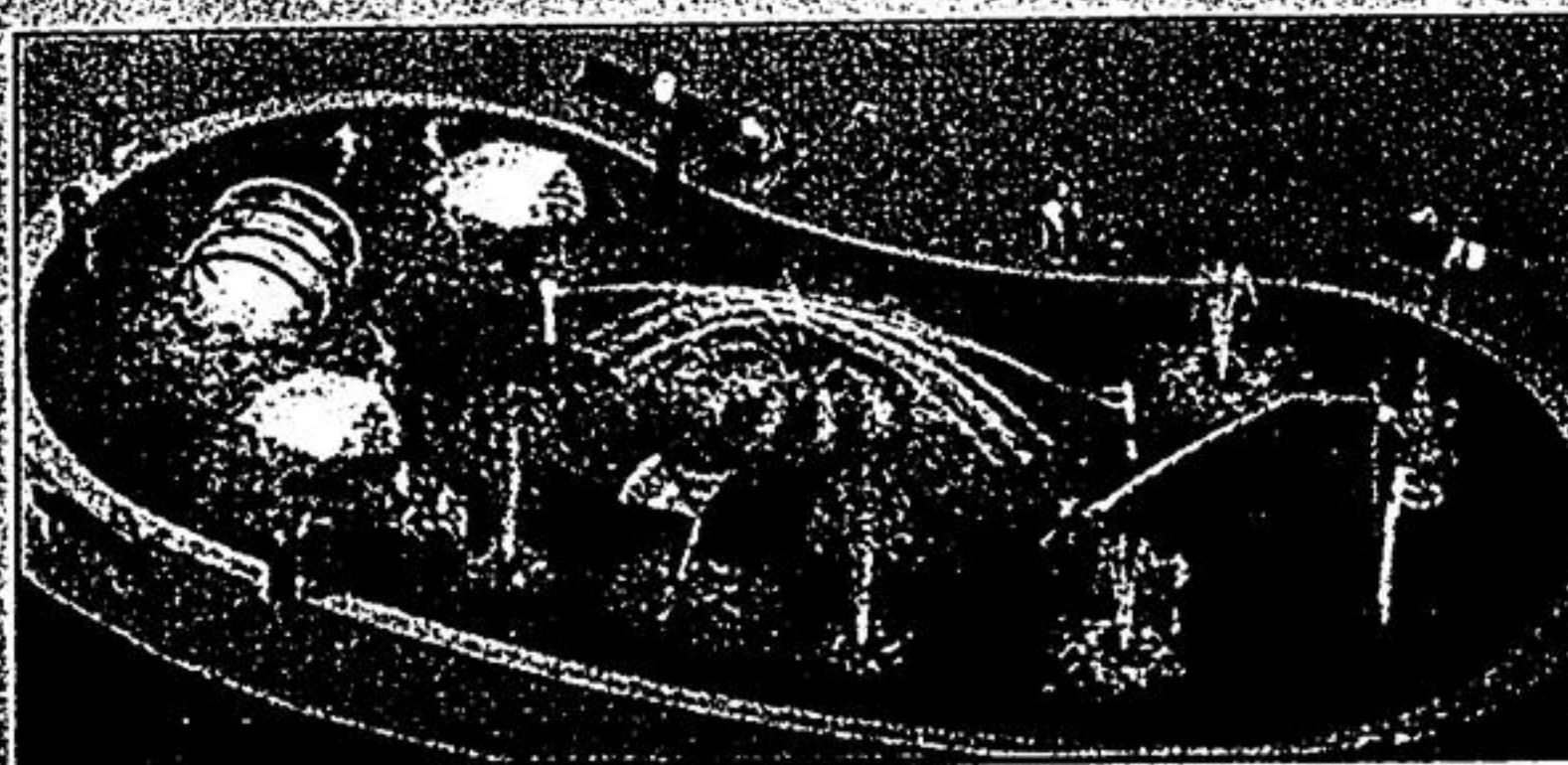
- A Splash pad; Junior and intermediate play structures and swings; A basketball court
- A multi purpose court that will convert to a natural ice rink in winter; A junior ball diamond;
- Tree planting to enhance the neighbouring storm water management pond;
- Sitting and lookout areas along a multi-use trail with a pedestrian bridge linking the residential areas east and west of the Stouffville Creek;

**Where:** Byers Pond Way in the Hoover Park Drive area; (West of Tenth Line, south of Main Street.)

**When:** Construction will commence this summer with expected completions by late fall 2005.

**Why:** To meet the growing recreational needs of the community.

The development concept for Byers Pond Way Neighbourhood Park was presented at a Public Information Session in March 2005. The project is being managed by Development Services and Leisure Services with the assistance of Landscape Architect Consultant, Totten Sims Hubicki Associates.



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