

# Interpretive barn in new park plans

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If all work is completed, there will be more basketball courts, tennis courts, green space and areas for concerts and outdoor festivals.

Memorial Park covers 50 acres south of Main Street in downtown Stouffville and includes Franklin Park, Sangster's Grove, Thicketwood Park, Thicketwood Bowl, the municipal skatepark, Civic Square, the land on which the sewage plant and recycling building are located and the property around the Lebovic centre.

Many residents expressed concerns about the road pro-

posed through the park at a year ago public workshop. Some opposed it. Others wanted the road relocated to have minimal impact on the park.

In the new plans, Park Drive extends through the park in a semi-circle, leaving about 20 meters of berm between it and Thicketwood Boulevard. The narrow berm area would become a toboggan run. One resident at the council meeting didn't think having a toboggan run so close to the road was a good idea. Plans also include removing a berm which forms the Thicketwood Bowl, adding basketball courts and

leaving the existing softball diamond.

A market garden area could be opened behind the old town hall. Civic Square would be enhanced as a focal point for the downtown area.

There will be an extensive skating path along the west side of the Stouffville Common.

The first thing you'll see as you stroll along this area will be an interpretive barn, depicting the agricultural roots and history of the municipality back to the time it was first settled. You might also see sculptures, perhaps of cows, and scenes of strawberry picking.

There won't be parking on the new road, which has been reduced from 36 to 26 feet in width, town staff said. That's just a little narrower than a residential street.

"I don't like it," Councillor Rob Hargrave said of the plans. He, too, was worried about vandalism.

"As the town grows, we will have an increase in the 'bad apples,'" he said.

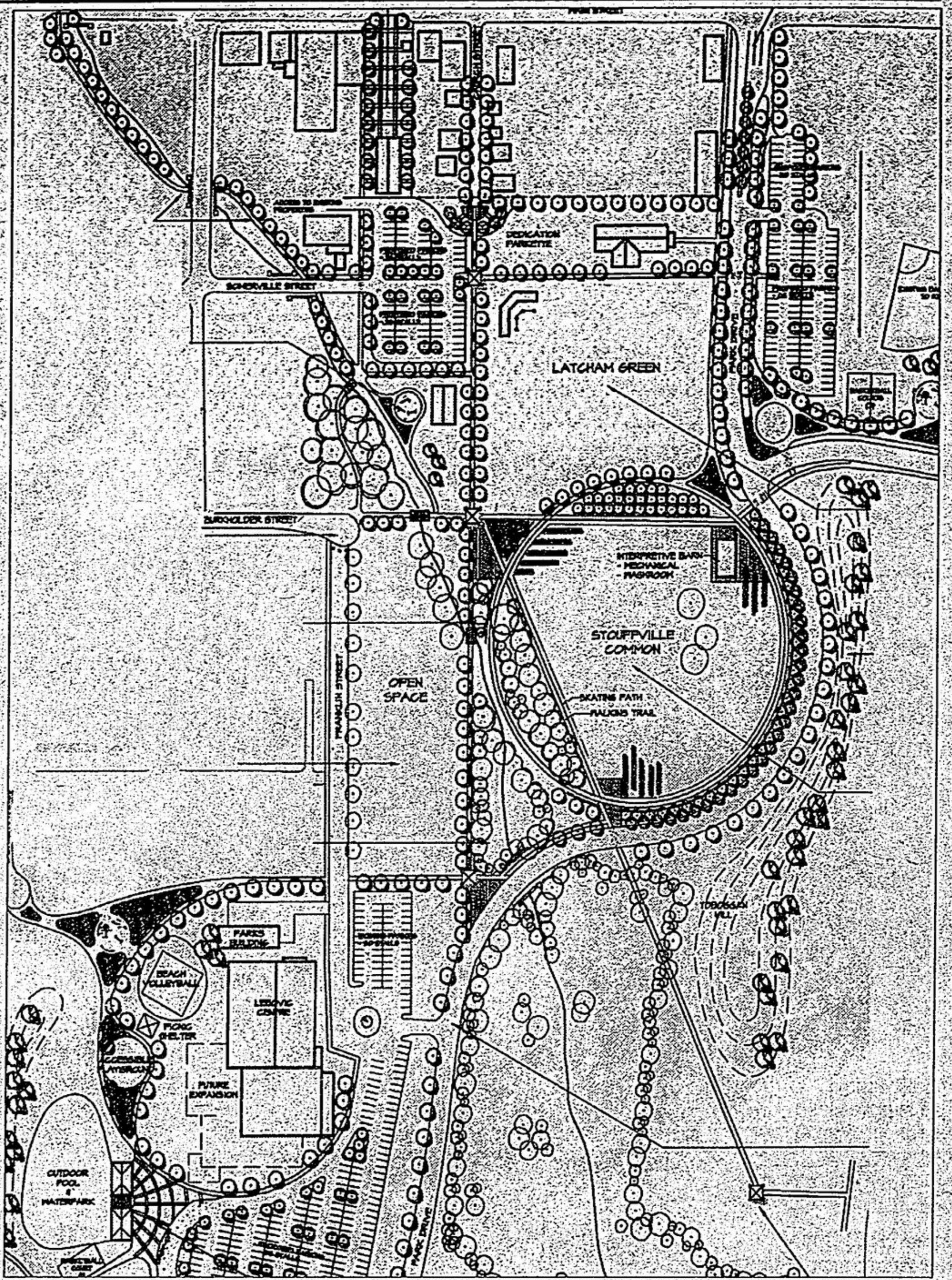
Destroying the Thicketwood Bowl also didn't sit well with him.

He believes people will park on Park Drive and children will run between parked cars. He suggested having the road for pedestrian and bicycle traffic only.

Increased parking will be provided at the Lebovic centre, the parking area near the skate park and behind 19 Civic Ave.

The lawn bowling green beside four new tennis courts south of the Lebovic centre found favour with Bob Stover of the Stouffville Lawn Bowling Club.

"This meets our needs,"



New plans for Memorial Park with Main Street at top and new Stouffville Common the circle in centre. A new outdoor pool and splash pad are at bottom left, next to the Lebovic Centre.

he told council.

A clubhouse would be shared between the sports groups.

The end of O'Brien Avenue will lead into green space, a beach volleyball court, picnic shelter, outdoor pool and waterpark, basketball court and skate park and the lawn bowling greens and four tennis courts/

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### SATURDAY IN THE PARKS

#### ▶ WHAT COULD HAPPEN IN MEMORIAL PARK:

- remove two ball diamonds
- add interpretive barn, possibly cow sculptures
- add skating path.

• keep and restore historic grandstand with the field called Latcham Green for special ball games and a stage for outdoor theatre and other performances.

• Mayor Wayne Emmerson would like to see a running track constructed.

#### ▶ BETHESDA PARK PLANS:

- on Bethesda Road between Ninth and 10th lines.
- three large ball diamonds.
- three full-size soccer fields and six smaller versions.
- walking trails and green spaces
- several shade and picnic structures
- building with snack bar, change rooms, washrooms