

Report PDR-PCD-37-15

To: Chair Wright and Members of the Planning and Community Development Committee

From: Sarah Morrison, Intermediate Planner

Meeting Date: September 15, 2015

Subject: **Request from the Department of National Defense to utilize the Rocklyn County Forest Tract for Training Exercise**

Status: Recommendation adopted by Committee as amended per Resolution PCD120-15; Endorsed by County Council October 6, 2015 per Resolution CC138-15;

Recommendation(s)

WHEREAS the County has received a request from the Department of National Defense requesting the use of the Rocklyn County Forest Tract to conduct military training exercises in October 2015 which involves temporary overnight camping;

AND WHEREAS the approved County Recreational Trail Strategy under Section 10 allows the use of the County Forests for militia activities subject to the approval of the Planning and Community Development Committee;

AND WHEREAS an indemnity agreement will be signed by the Department of National Defense to protect the interests of the County which will be reviewed through the County's agreement process;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Report PDR-PCD-37-15 be received;

AND THAT the Committee hereby approves the use of the Rocklyn Forest Tract for this military training exercise, subject to the necessary indemnity agreement being signed.

Background

The County has received a request from the Department of National Defense (DND) to use the Rocklyn County Forest Tract to conduct military training exercises in October 2015. The proposed exercise involves the use of the landing area (approximately 200 m

in the forest) and the parking of 10 large cargo trucks. This exercise will occur on two separate dates in October. There is no proposed use of ammunition or pyrotechnics.

The permission is for the gates to be open to allow access for 10 large cargo trucks on site and overnight camping on the two separate occasions.

The DND had indicated that there is no need to close the property to the public in order for the training exercise to occur. As the exercise will be limited to a specific area of the Rocklyn Tract, public use should not be impacted.

The County has supported similar requests in the past on County properties, we have an indemnification agreement and the DND has provided their License agreement. Both documents will proceed through the County's Agreement Process. County staff have reviewed the proposal and have no concerns.

Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology

Considerations

There are no anticipated financial, staffing, legal or IT concerns with regard to this request.

Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

Section 3.7 continue to implement the Grey County Recreational Trails Strategy and seek opportunities to work with others to expand the county-wide trails network.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sarah Morrison, Hons. BA, MCIP, RPP
Intermediate Planner

Director Sign Off: *Randy Scherzer*