



# Friends of the Spit

P.O. Box 467, Station J  
Toronto, Ontario M4J 4Z2

July 1986

## PHASE II

The MTRCA has completed Phase II of the Planning Process for Tommy Thompson Park/The Spit. To refresh our memories, the planning process has five phases.

Phase I - "Zone Identification": in which the MTRCA staff attempted to divide The Spit into mixed-use Development Zones called Option 3; and which we were able to keep the all "Non-Development" Option, [Option I] alive.

Phase II - "Alternative Development Components": The MTRCA identified, categorized and evaluated the desired uses and facilities. This Phase is presently "under discussion".

Phase III - "Concept Development": The MTRCA will work on the actual master plans and select their preferred concept.

Phase IV - "Master Plan": The MTRCA will prepare the Master Plan for implementation.

Phase V - "Report and Approval": The MTRCA staff will report to the MTRCA Board, and the MTRCA will present their final plan to the public and all other required levels of Government.

Phase II was initiated following the MTRCA Board's decision last November that Option I was as viable a planning option as Option 3 and that planning should continue for both Options! At the end of February the MTRCA staff issued a call for public input (The dull brown flyer you may have received). The public response was then received, evaluated and published with the MTRCA's staff ideas in the "Phase 2 - Summary, Tommy Thompson Park Concept Plan Potential Site Uses", issued to coincide with their public meeting on June 17. Although promised for distribution well in advance of the June 17th meeting, most people saw the report for the first time at the meeting! - not much chance to organize a response!

## SUMMARY OF THE PHASE II SUMMARY

The Phase 2 Report has four introductory sections outlining the Spit's regional context and significant features. The meat of the report is a list and evaluation of potential uses and facilities to be included in the Final Master Plan.

Highlights of the Report are:

1. No attempt was made to "weight" the uses:- therefore washrooms, for which there was a very high public demand, was on par with a Visitors' Centre for which there was one written request.
2. Items were listed in the Summary Evaluation with no indication whether they were proposed by the public or MTRCA staff.
3. The Summary Evaluation List of Potential Use was for Option 3. There was no equivalent list for Option 1!

The summary shows that the majority of desired uses are existing with the exception of increased boating facilities and parking.

To receive your copy, phone the MTRCA - 661-6600.

PHASE II PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

The position statement by the MTRCA on June 17 differed from their past introductions by having a presentation by their consulting Landscape Architect, Walter Kehm. Mr. Kehm's speech clearly and sympathetically echoed Friends of the Spit's position. He outlined that beauty and unique nature of The Spit and its present enjoyment by large numbers of people. From his description you would believe the MTRCA has every intention of following our urgings to let it be!

Your Co-Chairs both spoke - John Carley reviewed the MTRCA's Report and pointed out the bias towards Option III. Using the MTRCA's own chart he showed how many of the proposed uses could be considered existing - eg. bicycling, birding, washrooms. Lee Gold continued on this theme restating our position that The Spit is great as it is. The Boating Community had a number of speakers all with one point - they want to have their yacht clubs on The Spit. Most the the North Shore Clubs wish to stay put but are sure the THC will not continue their leases.

THANK YOU FOR COMING.....SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

We would like to thank all of the members who actively supported Friends of The Spit during Phase II. Your eloquent letters to us and the MTRCA strengthened our submission. Your attendance at the June 17 Public Meeting was needed to balance the number of sailor present. The turn out by boaters in Phase II was high - both in letters & in person. We must keep a very high profile and not be swamped by the sailors now!

In September the MTRCA will be holding workshops to discuss the Phase III Master Plan Concepts with the public. It is VERY IMPORTANT that we all attend these sessions. According to the MTRCA's SCHEDULE, THIS WILL BE THE LAST CHANCE FOR PUBLIC INPUT. We will make sure you get timely notice of these meetings.

HYDROPLANE RACES

Again this year a prime June weekend was ruined by the Hydroplane races. On the Saturday the noise made enjoyment of The Spit's tranquility impossible and on the Sunday the crowds were so great the MTRCA staff was forced to close Tommy Thompson Park. The MTRCA condones the THC's support of these races, which have a negative impact on The Spit and the Outer Harbour. We don't know how to stop the races in future (we already tried picketting the THC) but you might be interested to know advertisers (sponsor?) at the races included Coppertone, Canadian Tire and Castrol ....

Quote of the Month (from the Toronto Star, July 3, 1986)

Mr. C. DiNino, new chairman of Harbourfront: "...he opposes creating more parkland, saying there's "too much green" at Harbourfront already."

With this kind of attitude, all the more reason to keep the Spit as it is, free from Development. Especially free from the Harbourfront kind of "Development".

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Most members have now renewed for 1986. If you have not yet renewed but intend to (and we hope you do!), please tear off the form below and mail in with your dues to our new address: [or, pass this form on to your friends!]

FRIENDS OF THE SPIT  
P.O. BOX 467, STATION  
TORONTO, ONTARIO M4J 4Z2

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Membership Dues for 1986: Individuals \$3.00 (or more) Family \$5.00 (or more)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ POSTAL CODE \_\_\_\_\_

(NEW ADDRESS? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_) (NEW MEMBER? YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_)