

Subject: Creating ecosystems

Hey Audrey!

At the last TFAC meeting the topic of having the City's Park's Department look at finding more locations to create ecosystems within the city was discussed.

Jill-Anne mentioned that some areas in Springbank Park have seen grasses left unmowed to create healthier environments for pollinators.

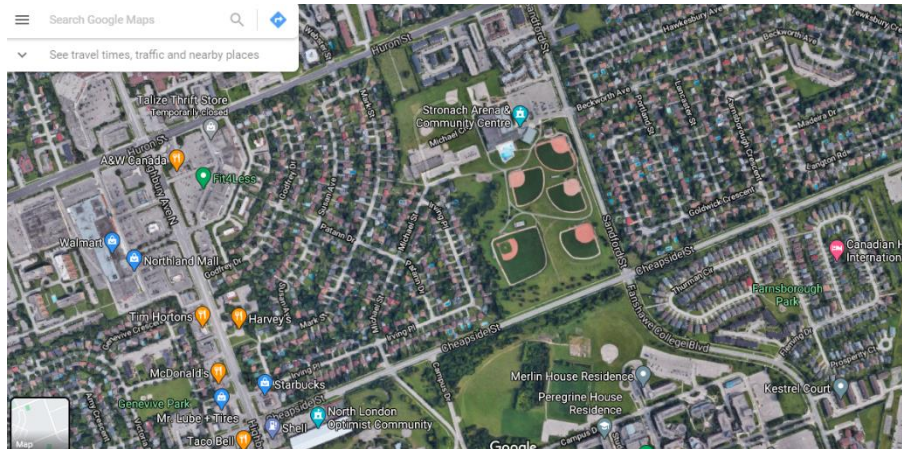
While allowing grasses to grow is a good thing... a few more steps added to this process would help to create mini ecosystems throughout the city... making it a great thing!

To do this, the City would need to start planting bushes and wildflowers in the areas where they are now just not mowing.

I was invited to offer a suggestion at the April meeting.... so here it is...

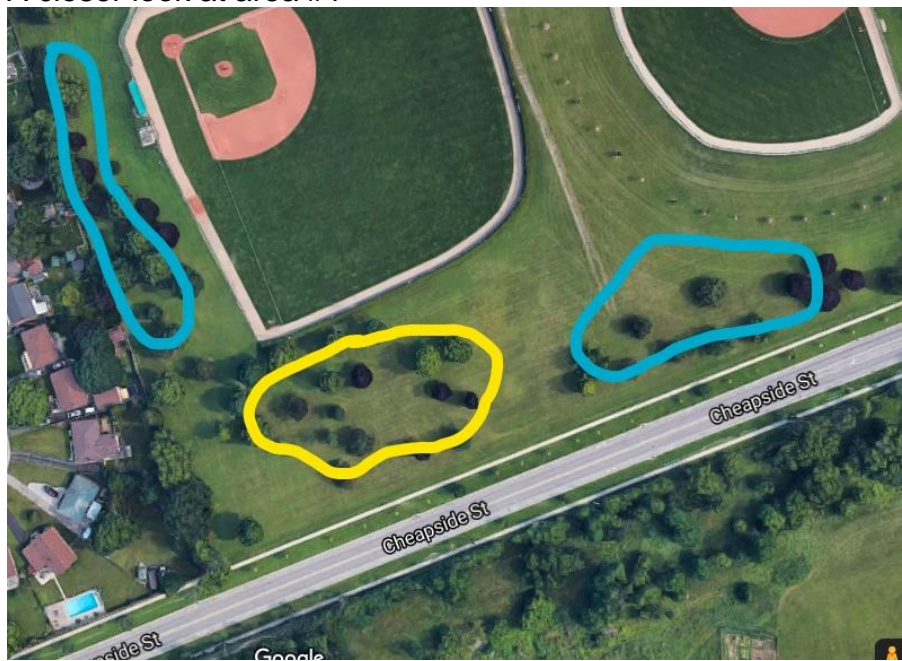
I'm hoping that this idea will be accepted and moved forward, or even improved upon and moved forward. I would like to see this idea used as a foundation block for further initiatives of this nature.

So....



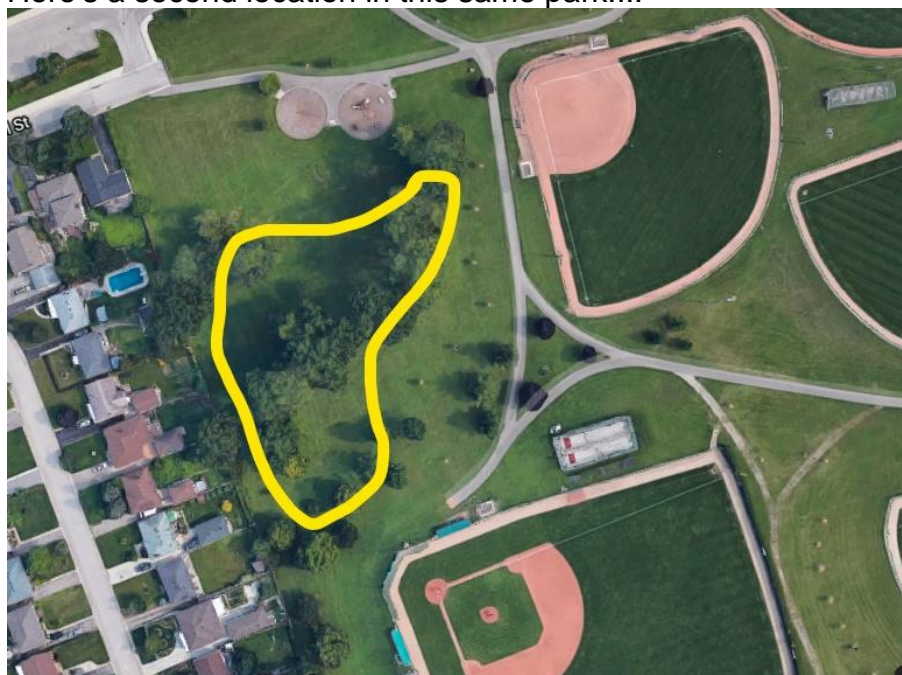
... here's the park that I believe would be a great place to start!
It's north of Cheapside and east of Sanford.

A closer look at area #1



The yellow line indicates the area where I would love to see this initiative take place. The other two blue lines indicate possible locations to further this initiative. Quite simply... around the outer edges of these tree groups, have the Park's Dept. plant a variety of native shrubs. Within the area, allow the existing grasses to grow and also add native perennial wildflowers.

Here's a second location in this same park....



So... there ya go!

If TFAC members could have a chance to look at this info and spend a few moments thinking about the desired end results that I'm trying to express, before the next meeting, then we could probably move this matter along fairly quickly at the next meeting.

Thanks

Jim