



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER
RILEY BROCKINGTON



Carlington Community Association

City Councillor's Update - November 23, 2019

Alexander Park Play Equipment Update

New play equipment has been installed at Alexander Park and is open for use. Some additional site furniture and new bicycle racks are not yet installed and due to manufacturers delay. The site furniture and bicycle racks will be installed in the spring.

Merivale Road Beautification Project Status Update

The City of Ottawa is currently implementing the Merivale Road beautification project. The plans for the three areas along Merivale Road: Merivale and Carling traffic triangle; Merivale Circle; and Merivale and Kirkwood will use similar elements such as benches, armour stones and landscaping features to create a connection along the street. Some of the main highlights and key design elements of the renewed areas include a pedestrian crossing, new pathway, new pedestrian crossing, armour stone landscaping, benches, tree and foliage plantings, landscaping, drought resistant plants, and a small inviting plaza at the Merivale and Kirkwood node.

- The Merivale and Carling triangle presented some unique site conditions upon preliminary inspection including additional manholes, a high voltage hydro line along the Carling Sidewalk, and a concrete road sub base. As a result a bit more time is needed to resolve these issues which has shifted work efforts away from this site. A small realignment of the pathway extension through the triangle was required to avoid hydro poles and manholes, paving base materials are installed, plant beds and all tree and shrub planting is complete, flagstone plant bed edging will be completed shortly, armour stone is installed, concrete installation is scheduled to commence next week.
- Merivale Circle at Thames - trees and plant beds are installed, armour stone is installed, and concrete curb installation to commence next week.
- Merivale and Kirkwood - work within Merivale island has commenced. The precast retaining wall is near completion. Concrete works to commence next week.

The contractor has been working diligently despite the cold and snow. Significant progress on all three sites is expected with the concrete works scheduled to begin next week. I would expect the sod at the Merivale and Carling triangle

and in the median at Merivale and Kirkwood will need to be completed in the Spring.

Construction to Start Imminently for Phase One of the Westgate Redevelopment

On November 4, in conjunction with Councillor Leiper's office, we organized a public Open House where representatives from RioCan discussed the construction staging and general construction timelines and milestones for the pending construction at the Westgate Mall property at 1309 Carling Avenue.

Demolition and construction will begin over the next few weeks for Phase I of the redevelopment project. This phase involves the construction of a 24-storey mixed-use building with a two-storey underground parking garage. This involved the demolition of the Monkey Joe's building this week which occupied the southeast corner of the site. Phase 1 is expected to be completed in approximately two years' time.

For more information on the construction, please contact my office.

417 Carling Avenue Eastbound On Ramp

The Ministry of Transportation had initially hoped to open the Carling Eastbound onramp this weekend but unfortunately it would not be able to occur as planned.

The work at the Merivale Bridge is now complete and paving of the bridge deck was completed Thursday, November 21. Unfortunately, the cold temperatures forecasted overnights prevented the removal and placement of new pavement markings which are required for the new traffic configuration to be in place this winter.

Please follow me on twitter and on my website at RileyBrockington.ca for any updates on this roadwork.

966 Fisher Avenue

The City's Planning Committee is scheduled to consider the Zoning Bylaw Amendment application for the proposed development at 966 Fisher Avenue on Thursday, December 12 at 9:30am in the Champlain Room at Ottawa City Hall. The proposed development includes two 3-storey buildings on the west side of Fisher Avenue north of Shillington Avenue. 38 total units and ground floor parking are proposed in the plan. The height of the building has been

lowered to 9.37m. A total of 26 vehicular parking spots as well as 40 bicycle parking spots are included in the proposal. Any resident interested in speaking at the committee meeting either for or against the proposal is encouraged to contact my office closer to the date and we will make arrangements for you.

1110 Fisher Avenue Update

On July 25 I hosted a community meeting with the developer to discuss the new zoning amendment submission for the property at 1110 Fisher Avenue. A number of residents attended to voice their concerns with the development application including the access and egress, height, massing, and setbacks, to name a few. As a reminder the proposal is for a 9-storey apartment building for the site with 62 units and 3 levels of underground parking. The property is located on the west side of Fisher south of Trent Street.

In mid-August I personally met with the owner of the property to request that the proposal be scaled back. There is no intention for the proposal to be reduced in height or size, the owner is content with the proposal.

Comments from the City and neighbouring property owners were provided to the applicant from the first circulation. A 2nd submission was recently received and will be reviewed in the coming weeks by City Planning staff. I will also be scheduling a meeting to get an update on the resubmission to see if any of the issues that were brought to the applicant's attention were addressed. From what I understand, there does not appear to be any reduction in height of the building with the second submission.

Planning Staff have advised that the review will continue into 2020.

Road, Sewer and Watermain Infrastructure Project - Larkin Street, Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue

I hosted a Public Information Session for the road, sewer and watermain renewal project on Larkin Street, Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue on September 30 for residents to review the drawings for the infrastructure project. The following aged infrastructure is in poor condition and will be renewed:

- Sanitary sewers in Larkin Street, Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue
- Storm sewers in Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue
- Watermains in Lepage Avenue and in Larose Avenue

The limits of the project are: Larkin Street between Lepage Avenue and Laperriere Avenue, Lepage Avenue between Cavan Street and Larkin Street, and Larose Avenue between McBride Street and Larkin Street.

Construction is tentatively planned to begin in spring of 2020 with potential completion by the end of 2020.

2020 Budget

The 2020 City of Ottawa Budget was tabled on Wednesday, November 6 at a special City Council meeting. The components of the budget will then be debated at the various committee meetings during the course of the month with the final budget being solidified on December 11. I encourage you to visit the city website at: www.Ottawa.ca/budget to review the budget documents. Please email me your comments and suggestions on where the city should focus its spending in the coming year.

If you would like to speak to one of the city's committees regarding the 2020 budget, the following is the schedule of the remaining budget review meeting dates:

November 25 - Police Service Board

November 28 - Planning Committee

December 3 - Finance and Economic Development Committee

December 3 - Ottawa Public Library

December 4 - Transportation Committee

December 9 - Ottawa Board of Health

December 11 - Adoption of Budget at Ottawa City Council

Earlier this week the Environment Committee, Transit Commission and Community and Protective Services Committee all discussed their budgets at length, and listened to community delegations on various topics.

You can confirm the meeting times and locations online at <https://engage.ottawa.ca/draft-budget-2020>.

O-Train Confederation Line and OC Transpo Bus Service

Since the launch of the largest route system change in OC Transpo history, there has been numerous and continuous issues with bus and train reliability. As a member of the Transit Commission, I intend to hold OC Transpo officials accountable and request their continued updates on improvements being implemented to deal with not just the continuing growing pains but also with historical issues with reliable bus and Para Transpo service.

At the Transit Commission meeting on November 20, I successfully moved a motion to have OC Transpo provide a 'Family Pass' option during periods when children are off school: March Break, Summer Break and at Christmas holidays. The motion was passed.

I voted against the Transit Budget at the Transit Commission meeting at this time because I believe the proposed budget fails to provide the necessary resources for bus reliability. I am willing to amend my vote at Council if further details and resources are committed to improving bus reliability. I am meeting with OC Transpo management next week to discuss this matter further.

Rat Mitigation

Thank you to the residents of Carlington who came out last month to my River Ward West Community Safety Night and heard from Bylaw Services/Ottawa Public

Health (OPH) on the importance of property maintenance to keep rats and other rodents away from your property. OPH provides a handy print-out for property owners on its website regarding the following steps to prevent/control rats on your property:

Look for evidence—inspect for evidence of rats on your property. Look for nests/burrows, droppings, holes and pathways.

Clean up—clean up and get rid of clutter. Wash away their tracks and droppings, control weeds and shrubs.

Starve them—do not make your garbage their food and do not put out food for pets or wild animals.

Shut them out—inspect for holes and seal all cracks and available spaces.

Wipe them out—contact a pest control company to bait when rat activity is present.

You can find this and more information on the OPH website at <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/public-health-topics/rat-control.aspx>

New Neighbourhood Policing Model

As of October 21, – Three new teams of neighbourhood-based police officers will start working in three high-priority neighbourhoods.

The **Neighbourhood Resource Teams (NRTs)**, which also include Community Police Officers (CPOs), School Resource Officers (SROs), Traffic Services officers and Frontline officers, will be dedicated to Vanier/Overbrook, **Carlington/Caldwell** and Heron Gate/South Ottawa. These neighbourhoods were selected because of elevated rates of calls for service, property crimes, and violent incidents involving shootings, stabbings and homicides.

The NRTs are designed to increase police presence and address community concerns about crime and social disorder.

Residents are encouraged to continue reporting crimes using normal practices - dialing 911 for life threatening emergencies and crimes in progress; and 613-236-1222 for non-emergencies.

The members selected for the NRTs are experienced officers who have been assigned on longer fixed service terms to ensure they work in the same areas over several years. This will allow them to build long-term relationships and get to know the people and communities they serve.

NRT officers have been given specialized training, focusing on the areas where they will be deployed. It includes learning about relationship-building strategies, cultural awareness, how to establish neighbourhood networks, human-trafficking issues, and hate-motivated incidents and investigations. This training is designed to assist the NRT officers to address each neighbourhood's specific needs.

Additionally, the NRTs will be monitored by Carleton University's Dr. Linda Duxbury. Her team will evaluate the efficacy of the NRTs and offer feedback as the program grows. This accountability measure will ensure that goals are set, and met, to improve overall community safety.

For more information, you can visit the Neighbourhood Resource Teams web page at ottawapolice.ca/NRT.

New Chief of Police

On Monday, August 26, the Ottawa Police Services Board announced that it has selected Peter Sloly as the new Chief of Police for the Ottawa Police Service (OPS). Mr. Sloly is a former Deputy Chief from the Toronto Police Service and was sworn in as Chief of Police on October 28. I look forward to working with him on River Ward priorities.

Increased Focus for Sidewalk Clearing This Winter

The City of Ottawa is increasing its focus on 24/7 snow clearing on sidewalk beats this upcoming winter. Conditions of sidewalks were not acceptable last winter and I voiced my frustration with City staff who have been working on improved service strategy over the last several months. New ice-breaking equipment has also been purchased to assist with clearing the ice off of sidewalks after freeze-thaw cycles.

Overnight Parking Bans This Winter Season

The City of Ottawa's winter overnight parking regulations are in effect between November 15 and April 1st. Parking is not permitted on city streets between the hours of 1 a.m. and 7 a.m. when 7 cm of snow or more is forecast by Environment Canada in the Ottawa area and the City has enacted a parking ban.

Vehicles that remain parked on the street when an overnight parking ban is in effect are subject to being ticketed and towed. The City of Ottawa will be strictly enforcing the bans this winter. Your co-operation in finding alternate parking will help city crews clear the streets quickly and efficiently, which benefits all of us.

You can stay informed about overnight parking bans by signing up for an e-alert or by following the City's official social media channels. The local media is also advised in the event overnight parking restrictions are in effect. Enforcement of winter overnight parking restrictions will continue each evening until snow clearing is completed and

SIGN UP FOR THE RIVER WARD E-NEWSLETTER!

Launching in December 2019, I will be starting an e-newsletter that will be emailed to residents with pertinent updates on community events, public meetings and items of interest. Please email me at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca to have your name added to our list.

the City issues a special advisory indicating that the overnight parking restriction has been lifted.

Send Feedback on Traffic Calming Requests

Over the next few weeks I will be reviewing additional locations across River Ward to add temporary traffic calming on local neighbourhood streets. If you have a location that you would like reviewed for local traffic calming, please share them with me via email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca by Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

Engage Ottawa - 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Refresh

The City of Ottawa released the Ten Year Plan: A Home for Everyone 2014-2024 in 2014. The City is now updating the plan, in consultation with Ottawa residents, as part of a required provincial mid-point review. This review allows cities to revise their plans so that they remain responsive to the changing needs of residents and the housing environment.

The Engage Ottawa website for the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan review has been launched. Engage Ottawa provides an opportunity for residents to give feedback on housing initiatives and keeps them informed as the City updates the plan. We encourage residents to register for the site to stay updated on the progress of the 10-Year Plan review and to answer specific questions that will help the City decide on new strategies and initiatives to help increase the supply of affordable and supportive housing, create more affordability for residents, and help the City achieve our goal of ending chronic homelessness.

For more information on the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan please visit <https://engage.ottawa.ca/>.

Community and Protective Services Committee Moves to Regulate Rental Accommodations

In response to the proliferation of short-term rentals (AirBnb's) in Ottawa and concerns about the quality of rental housing, low vacancy rates and a growing need for more affordable rental housing, the City's Community and Protective Services Committee approved a new regulatory framework for rental accommodations on Friday, November 15. City Council will consider the proposed regulations at its meeting on Wednesday, November 27.

In cases where property owners continue to not comply with property standards, the City would immediately increase the re-inspection fee to \$500. Revenue from this fee would be used to fund two new by-law officers who would focus on repeat offenders and high-risk properties.

The proposed regulatory regime for long-term rental housing also includes new by-laws to improve landlord-tenant communication and pest and vermin

management. The City would provide additional educational information on tenant rights and related by-laws.

The City would pilot new regulations permitting short-term rentals in residential neighbourhoods for three years, enabling property owners to rent out their principal residences, rural cottages and vacation homes on short-term rental platforms like Airbnb, Vrbo, HomeAway and FlipKey. Short-term rentals of commercial and investment properties would still be prohibited.

Short-term rental platforms, property managers and hosts would need to register with the City and follow rules related to consumer protection, health and safety, and community nuisances. Short-term rental hosts would need to get a permit that would be valid for two years. The City would use revenues from the new registration and permit fees and from the municipal accommodations tax to enforce the rules.

Following public consultation, staff would report back to the Committee next year with by-laws to enact the proposed regulations.

As there are no systemic or recurring issues with hotels, motels or bed and breakfasts, the City would not create any additional regulations or licensing for these establishments.

Rooming houses would see no further regulations either as the City hopes to prevent further decline of this affordable form of housing. Instead, the City would use incentives like provincial funding for property enhancements to improve living conditions.

River Ward Christmas Social

I am hosting my annual Christmas Social Open House on Monday, December 9, 2019 from 6:30pm—8:30pm at the Carleton Heights Community Centre, located at 1665 Apeldoorn Avenue. All are welcome to attend.

Although not required, an RSVP at 613-580-2486 would be appreciated if you plan to attend. Also, please bring a non-perishable food donation for the Ottawa Food Bank as we will have a food drive as part of our festivities. I hope to see you there.

