



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER
RILEY BROCKINGTON



Carlington Community Association

City Councillor's Update - February 18, 2020

Alexander Community Centre Needs Assessment

I have authorized an expenditure of \$60,000 to fund a community-led Needs Assessment for the renovation and expansion of the Alexander Community Centre. These funds, drawn from the River Ward Cash-in-Lieu account, will allow the City of Ottawa to undertake a Carlington wide community survey that will ask residents for their input on the new Centre, particularly, the types of components that are needed. It will also try to gauge information from local residents on why they do not visit the Centre. The Ottawa Public Library has agreed to be part of the initial needs assessment.

A preliminary set of survey questions was shared with the Executive of the CCA Board earlier this month and constructive feedback was shared with me to extensively expand and revise the survey. It is my intention to inform all residents by mail of the on-line survey's existence and to encourage its completion. Hardcopies will also be made available to those on demand, and at local hubs, such as the Alexander CC, Carlington Community Health Centre and locations in Caldwell.

Preliminary designs for the new Centre will be made available to the public later this calendar year as part of public consultations.

The even bigger discussion is how to finance the renovation and expansion of our 53-year old Centre. In mid-November, 2019, the City of Ottawa submitted a list of projects (36 in total) that responded to a request for proposals from the federal government as part of a federal initiative, known as *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Community, Culture and Recreation program*. The City's list went to the Province of Ontario first, to be vetted and recommended to the federal government. The City should receive the results of the Provincial assessment in late winter / early spring. Once the province has completed their assessment, projects will be considered by the Federal Government for final approval in the spring/summer of 2020. Within the last six weeks, I have met and

spoken directly with MPP Roberts, MPP Harden, MPP MacLeod, as well as the Chief of Staff for MPP MacLeod. I also will be meeting with MP Catherine McKenna to review the proposal. I have been speaking about the need to renovate and expand the Alexander Community Centre with our elected reps for a number of years. This infrastructure fund is a good opportunity to fund our local Centre and I have been pressing upon our provincial and federal reps the significant need in our community and why the renovated/expanded Centre will have a positive impact.

1110 Fisher Avenue Development Application Update

In June 2019, the City of Ottawa received another Zoning Bylaw amendment development application for the property at 1110 Fisher Avenue located on the west side of Fisher Avenue, south of Trent Street.

In January 2016, City Council approved a development application to build nine, 4-storey semi-detached and townhouse units, with an associated private driveway off Fisher Avenue. After some time passed, the owner of the property reconsidered his original approved development plan. A renewed development plan was brought to my attention in the Spring 2018 which proposed the construction of a 5-storey apartment building with 36 residential apartment units. The owner and his development team never officially proceeded with a development application for the proposed plan.

Subsequently, I met with the owner and his development team again in June 2019 and was advised that they had submitted a revised application to build a mid-rise, 9-storey apartment building. The building is proposed to contain 62 residential units, and 3 levels of underground parking with 65 parking spaces. The Zoning By-Law Amendment is to change the current zoning designation from R3 to R5 which would allow the requested height of 32 metres.

I hosted a community meeting on July 25, 2019 that was well attended by neighbours, the Carlington Community Association, and local residents. A number of issues were brought to the developer's attention at that time including but not limited to height, access and egress into the property, setbacks, tree conservation, parking, massing, grading and water runoff and heritage impact as the site is in proximity to the Experimental Farm.

On August 9, 2019 I met with the owner of the property to highlight the community's concerns and request that the development proposal be scaled back to something more reasonable that can fit within the community. The owner was quite firm with his plans and was not willing to make any modifications to the proposal. I told him point blank I will not support his application, as proposed.

After a review of the first submission by the applicant, the City of Ottawa Planner sent his comments back to the applicant noting a number of issues with the first submission. A second submission was submitted to the City prior to Christmas 2019.

I met with the City Planner on January 15, 2020 to get an update on the applicant's second submission to better understand the differences between the first and second submission and how the applicant addressed the comments the City and the local community provided on the first submission. I was surprised to learn that there was little to no movement by the applicant to address any of the concerns put forward. In fact, the second submission was almost identical to the first submission in terms of height, massing, and setbacks.

The planner will be sending another round of comments back to the applicant again outlining the preliminary concerns and a plan to address them. I will be meeting again with the planner later this winter to seek an update on this planning file.

I continue to have serious reservations with this application as proposed. To review all associated reports and applications for the proposed development, please visit www.ottawa.ca/devapps and insert 1110 Fisher into the file search tool.

At this time, there are no timelines when this application may be considered at Planning Committee. At the very earliest, it would be mid to late Spring 2020.

1354-1376 Carling Avenue – Travelodge Development

Site Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendments have been approved for the development at 1354 and 1376 Carling Avenue. The approvals allow for the construction of two, 20-storey towers and one, 22-storey tower fronting onto Carling Avenue as well as two, 8-storey buildings backing onto the existing residential homes on Thames Avenue. The first phase of the development will occur on the east side of the property with one 20-storey building and an 8-storey building with underground parking. The Travelodge Hotel will remain in operation for now and be developed as the second phase of construction.

I hosted a construction management meeting for residents who live on Thames Street, Archibald Street, and Meath Street in October. The intent of the meeting was for the Travelodge construction team to provide a presentation and overview of their upcoming construction plans, the site layout and staging, and some of the expected construction timelines for residents who live adjacent to the property. Construction is expected to begin this coming spring.

Community Resources Open House

On **Monday, February 24 from 6:00pm-7:30pm** I will be hosting a Carlington Community Resource Open House at the Travelodge (1376 Carling Avenue) with local community groups, organizations and municipal services. The goal is to share information about programs and services that are available in the area and to better learn of the needs that exist for the families temporarily living at the Travelodge.

966 Fisher Avenue

On January 29, City Council approved the Zoning Bylaw Amendment application for the development at 966 Fisher Avenue. The 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 is 9.37m. A total of 26 vehicular parking spots as well as 40 bicycle parking spots are included in the proposal. The next step in the development process will be Site Plan application, which has yet to be filed with the City.

Site Plan Application – 1295 Summerville Avenue

The City of Ottawa has approved the Site Plan application to permit an infill, 3-storey low-rise apartment building at 1295 Summerville Avenue. The property is located east of the existing apartment building on the property. The new apartment dwelling will contain 18 new apartment units. To view the plans please visit Ottawa.ca/devapps and enter 1295 Summerville into the file search tool.

Committee of Adjustment Applications in Carlington

The Committee of Adjustment recently considered one minor variance application and one consent application for two properties in the Carlington community.

1260 Dorchester – Minor Variance application to permit a reduced lot width from 15.0m to 12.19m. It is proposed to demolish the existing dwelling and to construct a three-storey, three-unit dwelling. This application was approved on January 22.

1307 & (1309) Thames - Application for Consent to subdivide the property into two separate parcels of land in order to create two separate lots. It is proposed to demolish the existing dwelling and construct a new, two-storey semi-detached dwelling. This application was approved on February 5.

Merivale Road Beautification Project Status Update

The City of Ottawa implemented the Merivale Road beautification project late last year. Three areas along Merivale Road: Merivale and Carling traffic triangle; Merivale Circle; and Merivale and Kirkwood saw some upgrades such as new 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 new pedestrian crossing, new pathway, armour stone landscaping,

benches, tree and foliage plantings, landscaping, drought resistant plants, and a small inviting plaza at the Merivale and Kirkwood node.

The contractor worked diligently despite the cold and snow. The new sod at the Merivale and Carling triangle and in the median at Merivale and Kirkwood will need to be completed in the Spring.

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

The City of Ottawa is planning to begin the road, sewer and watermain renewal project on Larkin Street, Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue this coming Spring. The work is needed to replace aged infrastructure which is in poor condition and will be renewed. This includes the sanitary sewers in Larkin Street, Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue, the storm sewers in Lepage Avenue and Larose Avenue, and the 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.

Total cost of the City's investment is \$6 million.

Housing and Homelessness Emergency

On Wednesday, January 29, City Council approved a motion from Councillor Catherine McKenney, Council's Liaison on Housing and Homelessness to declare an affordable housing and homelessness crisis and emergency. The City does not possess the resources to manage the crisis alone and the provincial and federal governments must provide an increase to funding for housing, housing supports, and housing allowances, as well as long-term financial plans, to meet the needs of the community.

The City's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan is at its five year point and a refreshed plan and strategy will be unveiled at the March 27 Community and Protective Services Committee.

Review of LRT Phase 2 Procurement

At the City Council meeting last Wednesday, February 12, City Council approved a motion for an independent, external review of the Stage 2 LRT procurement process. The approved motion 1) directs the City Manager to release the Stage 2 Light Rail Transit Trillium Line Project Procurement documents, 2) that City Council waive its solicitor-client privilege with respect to the October 23, 2018 legal opinion by Norton Rose Fulbright, 3) that an independent consultant be engaged to undertake a 'Lessons Learned' exercise on the procurement, 4) that the scope of work and recommended consultant for the Lessons Learned exercise be brought to the Finance and Economic Development Committee and full Council for their approval by the end of Q2 2020, with the intention that the consultant's report be presented to Committee

and Council by November 2020, and 5) that City Council direct staff to incorporate a review of the City's Public-Private Partnership Policy, in addition to the City's Purchasing By-law and the Delegation of Authority By-law.

Architectural Design Reveal of the Ottawa Public Library - Library and Archives Canada Facility

On January 23, 2020, the City of Ottawa, Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada revealed the architectural design for our newest landmark destination: the Ottawa Public Library - Library and Archives Canada Joint Facility. The new facility is a collaboration between the City of Ottawa and the Government of Canada. The facility will be located at 555 Albert Street, near Pimisi Light -Rail Transit Station and on the edge of downtown. The facility is expected to be open to the public in late 2024.

To view the architectural design or for more information on the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada joint facility, please visit www.Inspire555.ca.



Planned Hydro One Line Tree Maintenance

Hydro One is planning some maintenance on the transmission corridor running from Merivale Transformer Station to Valtetreau Junction. This corridor runs adjacent to Highway 417 in the industrial section of Carlington. Hydro One is responsible for maintaining a safe distance between vegetation and power lines to keep the corridor safe for public use, prevent unnecessary service interruptions and to allow easy and safe access for their crews. Work along the transmission corridor will include the removal of trees and other vegetation from the hydro corridor.

City Council Approves Framework to Regulate Short-Term Rental Accommodations

On November 27, 2019, City Council approved a policy framework for short-term (Air Bnb) rental regulations that includes mandatory permits for hosts who wish to have short-term rentals in their primary residences, and complementary regulations for platforms that list short-term rentals.

Based on City Council's decision, staff from the Emergency and Protective Services department are currently developing a draft Short-Term Rental By-law as well as the internal systems to administer permits and identify illegal listings. The new regulations will enable residents to provide short-term rentals in their own home, as well as rural cottages and vacation homes, with appropriate checks and balances. However, short-term rentals in investment properties, often referred to as "ghost hotels" or "Air Bnb", will continue to be prohibited throughout the City.

A Temporary Use By-law is under development by the Planning department to address zoning issues in order to permit residents to rent their entire home while they are travelling, provided they obtain a permit first and follow the regulations.

Staff will report back to Council in Q4 2020 with the Short-Term Rental By-law, the temporary zoning amendments, and an implementation plan. Staff expect that the new regulations will be in place late 2020 or early 2021.

2020 Summer Student Employment Program

The City of Ottawa opened its Summer Employment Recruitment on February 3, 2020. Students are encouraged to log in, create their profile and apply to the 70+ different job postings for this summer. The summer employment application period closes at the end of February.

For more information and to get started on your user profile visit Ottawa.ca/jobs.

Carlington Coffee and Conversation with your City Councillor

I will be hosting multiple informal open house drop-ins for residents to join me at the Bellevue Community Centre at 1475 Caldwell Avenue. The drop-in dates are as follows – March 24, May 5, and June 16 and are from 1pm-2pm. I will be joined by representatives from Ottawa Community Housing and the Ottawa Police Neighbourhood Resource Team to take your questions and discuss topics of interest.

Commemorative Naming - Julie Dunnigan Room

The City of Ottawa is seeking public feedback on a proposal to name the meeting room in J.A. Dulude Arena, at 941 Clyde Avenue, the Julie Dunnigan Room. The proposed naming was submitted in recognition of her extensive community service to the West End Hockey League as registrar, vice president of administration and webmaster. You can view the proposal online at ottawa.ca. Comments must be made in writing and received no later than February 27, 2020 to namingottawa@ottawa.ca.

Winter Road and Sidewalk Maintenance and Repairs

If you see any roads, sidewalks, or potholes that require winter maintenance or repair, please contact 3-1-1 or my office who will assist with arranging for additional maintenance and repairs with City Supervisors. If a City snow plow has caused any damage to your front grass, please let me know and we will arrange for grass repair which occurs in the spring.

Carlington Income Tax Clinics for Low Income Households

The Carlington Community Health Centre is also offering Income Tax Clinics for qualifying residents on March 9, 17, 23, 30. Call 613-722-4000 to make your appointment.

River Ward Women's Day Speaker Series

All residents are invited to attend my annual Women's Day Speaker Series.

The event will take place on Thursday March 5 at 6:30pm at the Hunt Club -Riverside Park Community Centre at 6:30pm. Please RSVP by calling (613) 580-2486.

This year's speakers include Krista Kealey Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs at the Ottawa International Airport Authority, Camille Williams-Taylor Director of Education at the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, and Kerry-Leigh Burchill Director General at the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum. I will also be joined by my City Council colleague Catherine McKenney, the Council Liaison for Housing and Homelessness.

Refreshments will be served.

Upcoming River Ward Events

Please save the date on your calendars for these upcoming River Ward community events.

- **Tuesday, February 25, 2020:** OPL Tax Benefits and Credits Information Clinic, 2:30pm at the Hunt Club—Riverside Park Community Centre (3320 Paul Anka Drive)
- **Sunday, March 1, 2020:** Governor General Footguard Performance, 1:00pm at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre
- **Saturday, April 11, 2020 :** Easter Weekend Free Brunch and Junkyard Symphony Performance, Alexander Community Centre (960 Silver Street)
- **Saturday, April 18, 2020:** River Ward Earth Day Celebration, Hunt Club—Riverside Park Community Centre
- **Friday, June 12, 2020:** River Ward Annual Strawberry Social, Hunt Club—Riverside Park Community Centre