



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER RILEY BROCKINGTON



Riverside Park Community Association January 11, 2023

Dear Members of the Riverside Park Community Association,

Happy New Year.

I look forward to a productive year ahead, working together to make our beloved neighbourhood safer, stronger, more vibrant and enjoyable to live, work and play.

Thank-you again to those who serve on the RPCA Board and everyone who attends monthly to contribute to the conversation and decision making process.

My very best to you all.

Riley

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

South End 2023 Budget Night Consultation Feb 7, Heron Road Community Centre

Have your say! Join The South end Councillors, (Brockington, Bradley, Carr and Menard) to discuss what city initiatives are important to you!

Where: Heron Road Community Centre
Address: 1480 Heron Rd, Ottawa, On, K1V 6A5
When: February 7

Meeting will be hybrid

City Budget 2023

Using the following survey link, you are invited to provide feedback and ask questions:
https://engage.ottawa.ca/city-budget-2023/survey_tools/budget-2023-survey-have-your-say.

Trillium Line – LRT Phase 2 Public Information Session **Hosted by Councillor Riley Brockington**

Come and find out more about the LRT Phase 2! There will be a special focus on the project from Carleton University to Hunt Club Rd.

When: February 16 (To be Confirmed)
Time: 7:00 pm
Where: Zoom
Link: To be Determined

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

729 Ridgewood Ave (Brigil Developments)

Brigil Developments is continuing to work on its submission for the mixed-use development located at 729 Ridgewood Avenue. They anticipate that they will submit their finalized application to the city at the end of January.

3071 Riverside Drive (Canoe Bay)

Prospective new owners of the parcel of land at 3071 Riverside Drive (known as Canoe Bay) were invited to submit bids to the realty company by September 15, 2022. As of mid-December, these offers were still being assessed.

CITY OF OTTAWA

Vacant Unit Tax

The Vacant Unit Tax (VUT) system is now live. If you have not received a notice for reporting purposes, one will be arriving in homeowners' mailboxes or inboxes over the next week for each property they own. It provides information such as the roll number and access code and identifies the next steps in the process to file the required occupancy status declaration for the 2022 calendar year.

Declarations must be filed between January and March 16, 2023. Property owners must provide some basic information on the occupancy of their property, including if it is their principal residence.

It will only take a few minutes to file the online declaration at ottawa.ca/vut. To access the declaration form, you must input your roll number and access code which will be mailed in the coming days or can be found on the latest tax bill. My ServiceOttawa account holders can sign into their account and complete the declaration without needing to insert their roll number or access code.

If you have a property that was vacant for 184 or more days in 2022, you may indicate whether any of the following exemptions apply:

- Death of a registered owner
- Property owner was in a hospital or long-term care facility
- Arm's length sale of the property
- Specific court orders prohibiting occupancy, sale, or rental of the property

- Extended renovations or construction
- Was used as a cottage rental with a valid permit for at least 100 days

If the property was vacant and does not qualify for an exemption, it may be subject to a one per cent charge of the property's current assessed value on the final 2023 property tax bill. Declarations are subject to audit to confirm their authenticity.

Homeowners will be required to file a declaration every year, between January and mid-March.

The City has declaration options for those who require accessibility-related supports or for those who do not have computer or internet access. More information will be provided in January.

Vacant Unit Tax revenues will help fund affordable housing initiatives, in accordance with the City's Ten-Year Affordable Housing and Homeless Plan, which commits capital funding for the construction of up to 500 new affordable units annually.

Visit ottawa.ca/vut for more information or you may contact them directly.

Contact: Revenue Services
Phone: (613) 580 – 2444 option 3
Online: My Service Ottawa through the [Vacant Unit Tax Home Page](#)
Canada Relay: (613) 580-2400

Snow Clearing – Canada Post Mailboxes - Correction

As snow and ice build up at Canada Post Mailboxes it can become a hazard to retrieve your mail. The City of Ottawa does not remove the snow from community mailboxes, Canada Post has a team that does this after 5cm of snow has accumulated and within 24 hours of the plow passing. If you notice that snow has accumulated at a community mailbox, you may contact Canada Post via the following method:

Phone: 1-866-607-6301
Online: www.canadapost.ca/support

Reporting Property Damage – City Vehicle

While performing City maintenance operations, City equipment may sometimes damage lawns and/or roadside mailboxes. If your lawn was damaged during the winter road maintenance operations, you may report the situation at anytime. The city will investigate these reports in early Spring. You may report property damage here: [ServiceOttawa - Property damaged by city vehicle](#)

Snow Clearing – Hydrants

Be a Hydrant Hero! Ottawa has over 23,000 fire hydrants across the city. Just like a car parked in front of a hydrant, snow can block a firefighter's access and cause delays in an emergency. How can you help? The City is looking for local [Hydrant Heroes](#) who can help our crews keep 1.5 metres clear around their neighbourhood hydrant. These heroes are very important in helping monitor snow levels around their local hydrant and shoveling snow away to prevent a buildup.



Airport Parkway and Walkley Road – Next Steps

Following two public information sessions hosted by the City of Ottawa in November and December 2022, on the Airport Parkway and Walkley Road respectively, City staff continue to compile public feedback received. The final design process will continue through 2023. I have met with local Councillors to discuss this project and we will plan to submit a formal request for detailed information that substantiates the need to widen the Parkway. Given the reduced demand since 2020 and the pending opening of the abutting Trillium LRT Line in the autumn of 2023, as well as concerns with induced demand should the Parkway be widened, we need to review the refreshed data that justifies this expense. There are also a number of proposals for Walkley Road that need additional review. Thank-you to the RPCA for your on-going attention and engagement on this significant project.

Mooney's Bay Park and Festivals

I am hosting a meeting with various City Departments (Parks and Recreation, Ottawa Bylaw, Parks Allocation) on February 2 to review and discuss the need for a better balance in Mooney's Bay Park with festivals and special events. I welcome and embrace festivals and special events and acknowledge they provide vibrancy and fun to our community in the summer. With large events, come impacts to the local community. I am seeking a better balance, less activity after Labour Day and greater adherence to noise bylaw limits.

TRANSIT

OC Transpo – Winter 2023 Service Update

Severe Storm Schedule Pilot

OC Transpo's articulated buses often struggle to operate in deep snow, sometimes getting stuck and causing service disruptions for transit customers. This winter, OC Transpo will implement a new Severe Storm Schedule pilot for buses on weekdays when 31 cm or more of snow is predicted to fall or under other severe circumstances.

- On weekdays, bus service will be based on a Saturday schedule, with limited early morning service and weekday-only routes. Trips will be added to routes servicing hospitals.
- Most articulated buses will be replaced with 40-foot and double-decker buses to improve service reliability.

- Para Transpo and O-Train service levels will not be reduced, but customers should still plan ahead and expect delays.
- When a severe storm is forecast for a Saturday or Sunday, the Severe Storm Schedule will not be implemented but some articulated buses will be replaced with 40-foot and double-decker buses to improve service reliability.

Rack & Roll Winter Pilot

The Rack & Roll Program will be extended year-round as a pilot on the entire bus fleet. A Rack & Roll winter pilot launched last winter on double-decker buses as a first step and OC Transpo is excited to expand the program.

ONLINE RESOURCES AT THE OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Check out the online activities and resources we have available for adults, teens and kids. These include digital eBooks and audiobooks, movies, language learning courses, as well as magazines and newspapers

- **Digital eBooks and audiobooks** via Overdrive (Libby app) and CloudLibrary for English titles and Aldiko (formerly Cantook) for French titles.
- **Language learning courses** via Mango Languages and Pronunciator.
- **Streaming movies** via Hoopla, the Kanopy Collection, Kanopy Kids and Access Video on Demand.
- **Free magazines and newspapers** via Flipster, RB Digital or PressReader.
- **Children’s resources for educational videos and online books** such as Just for Kids and the Tumblebook Library.
- **Video art classes and music lessons** via Creativebug and Artist Works.

To access these resources and much more, please visit www.biblioottawalibrary.ca/isolation-recreation. A valid Library card is required. For assistance, please call Info Service at 613-580-2940 or email infoservice@biblioottawalibrary.ca. [Lessons](#)

FAREWELL TO BROOKFIELD RESTAURANT

After 56 years of dedicated service to our community, the Brookfield Restaurant and Confectionary is closing! Please join Joyce and Anatoly to say goodbye!

When: January 21, 2022
Time: 2:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Where: The Brookfield Restaurant – 704 Brookfield Rd.

RIVERSIDE PARK TRAFFIC CALMING ISSUES – VISION FOR 2023 AND BEYOND

History and Context:

In the early part of the last decade, River Ward became the pilot project ward in the City for traffic calming, specifically, Springland Drive.

An inventory was amassed and when I came to office in 2014, had a number of speed display boards that circulated around the ward and yellow flex stakes (installed in Spring, removed in November).

During the 2018-2022 Term of Council, every ward was assigned \$50,000 on an annual basis to address traffic calming initiatives. After paying a set labour fee, the net amount was approximately \$40,000.

This amount covers seasonal calming, such as painted messaging and yellow flex stakes, speed display boards and now permanent features, like speed bumps, speed tables, curb extensions, bulb-outs etc.

During the 2022 election, a number of issues were identified by local residents which were documented. My task is to compile those issues and consider how to address them.

The following streets have been identified by the public as having issues with traffic speed and in some cases, limited sightlines, dangerous conditions.

The purpose of this January update is to publicly identify the streets that are a concern, to be transparent with the Association and public and for me to comment on what plans, if any, are in place to address these concerns. Feedback from the RPCA and members of the public are always welcomed.

Brookfield Road

Issue: Vehicles stop on Brookfield Road, eastbound, in front of the The Revalie complex. At certain times of the day, this is dangerous and causes congestion.

Remedy: An assessment will be done to consider adding No Stopping signs during morning and afternoon rush hours. As part of Phase 2 site plan discussions, there will be on-street parking, loading zone parking and/or stopping zones as part of the next phase of this development.

Fielding Drive

Issue: Speed of traffic in particular between Rankin and McCarthy in school zone

Past Work: Yellow flex stakes and painted messaging has been added in the past. A 3-way stop sign was installed at Southmore

Remedy: In 2022, at my request, the City undertook speed volume counts on Fielding. I will request an assessment be made along the school zone for the feasibility of speed bump(s)

Flannery Drive at Springland (North intersection)

Issue: Stop sign running, speed of traffic on Flannery from Brookfield to Springland

Past Work: Yellow flex stakes (2022) and painted messaging has been added in the past.

Remedy: A stop compliance study will be requested. Additional signage may also be a possibility, ie thermal-blast or median flex stake, with stop sign

Harkness-Colman-Cromwell loop

Issue: Speed of traffic, no sidewalks, no bike infrastructure

Past Work: The General Vanier neighbourhood became the ward's third subdivision to become a gateway community, meaning, all streets in here are 40km max speed limit. Painted messaging has been installed and a bike route was established on Harkness.

Remedy: The bike route loop will be extended to Colman and Cromwell.

Revelstoke Drive West

Issue: Speed of traffic in particular from Riverside to the NCC lands, abutting the river. A number of delivery vehicles and non-resident traffic visiting the NCC lands contribute to this problem.

Past Work: Painted road messaging has been added and Slow Down for Us signs circulated on various front lawns

Remedy: There is a desire of some residents I have been working with for 1+ year to install speed bumps. An assessment will be requested for options on this street.

Southmore Drive East

The City of Ottawa has completed a traffic calming study for Southmore Drive East between McCarthy Road and Walkley Road in response to traffic concerns raised by residents. The purpose of this study was to recommend permanent roadway modifications intended to improve safety, primarily by reducing vehicular speeds.

This study focused on key locations and potential recommendations within the means of the Neighbourhood Traffic Calming (NTC) program

Based on traffic data, coordination with various stakeholders, public feedback and other project constraints, City staff are recommending to proceed with the measures proposed in the February/March 2022 concept plan, plus a few additional measures.

The final recommended functional design plan for Southmore Drive East includes:

- 4 sets of speed cushions to slow vehicular traffic as it travels along Southmore Drive East.
- Edge lines on both sides of the street to visually narrow the roadway.
- Raising the existing crosswalk across Southmore Drive East at Walkley Road to improve pedestrian visibility and address drainage issues.
- A short sidewalk segment on the west side of Southmore Drive East from Walkley Road to Garwood Avenue. The sidewalk is planned to narrow the roadway to:
 - assist in reducing speeds, and
 - minimize the impact to the front lawns of 2908 and 2918 Southmore Drive East.
- Removal of on street parking adjacent to the new sidewalk as the available road width will be reduced by about 2 metres.
- Removal of on-street parking on the inside of the curve near Linton Road to improve visibility.

Renewal of the pedestrian landing pads at the McCarthy/Southmore intersection is also planned to be implemented in conjunction with the traffic calming measures on Southmore Drive East (though this work will be funded through a separate program).

Southmore Drive West

Issue: Speed of traffic, no sidewalks, no bike infrastructure

Remedy: Will assess the street for both yellow flex stakes and bike route edge line feasibility.

Riley Brockington

January 11, 2023