



# COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER RILEY BROCKINGTON



## Riverside Park Community Association September 13, 2023

**Dear Members of the Riverside Park Community Association,**

Happy September. The summer has flown by!

With the return of cooler weather and leaves showing signs that autumn is on the way, we now focus on our ward's youngest residents as they return to school for another year. Whether they are starting in kindergarten or in the final year of high school, we all have a responsibility to use extra caution when travelling on local streets. Traffic volumes will be way up as of next week, take good care regardless of which method of travel you choose.

I will be visiting all retail shops in the ward this month, renewing my pledge to connect with businesses who contribute their fair share to our local neighbourhoods as well. If you have any local issues or concerns I need to raise, please let me know.

Please reach out any time, my team and I are here to serve you.

Stay safe, Stay well

Riley Brockington

### **Hunt Club/Riverside Drive Intersection Modification**

The Hunt Club Road and Riverside Drive Intersection Modifications project will be holding an online engagement opportunity and a virtual public meeting TONIGHT to provide residents with an update on this project, allow you to review information about the project, and provide comments.

The City of Ottawa invites you to review and provide comments on the draft design for the intersection modifications that are on [to engage Ottawa](#). Your feedback can be submitted by email to the contact below.

**The virtual public meeting is being held TONIGHT.**

**Where:** Zoom ([Register here](#))

([https://ottawa-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_BL5rU8FTTjqzWd9WI0kLAQ#/registration](https://ottawa-ca.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BL5rU8FTTjqzWd9WI0kLAQ#/registration))

## Wendy Stewart Sawmill Creek Stormwater Ponds

The Sawmill Creek Stormwater Management Pond will be cleaned out this year. The work will entail creating access to a plunge pool and creating an area for sediment dewatering and storage. Once the work is complete, site remediation will take place to restore the area to its original state. Members of the public are invited to learn more about the upcoming project on **September 21, at 7pm..**

**When:** September 21, 7pm

**Where:** Kathy Ablett Room - 3320 Paul Anka Dr (Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre)

### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

#### 3071 Riverside Drive (Canoe Bay)

The land has been tentatively sold. The deal was to close on September 8 but requires more time to complete the transaction. As soon as I become aware of the new owner, I will reach out for a conversation about their development intentions and invite them to the RPCA, for introductions, should you agree.

#### 2865 Riverside St (St Patrick's Long Term Care Home)

St. Patrick's Long Term Care home is proceeding with a site plan control application for the expansion of their long term care home to include independent, affordable housing. They are proposing the construction of 133 units across 7 floors, comprising 62 studios, 57 one bedroom units and 14 two-bedroom units. The development proposes an additional 120 residential spaces and an additional 27 visitor parking spaces. On September 5, St. Pat's hosted the public for an information session. Approximately 25 members of the public attended.

#### 770 Brookfield Rd (La Revalie)

La Revalie continues to finesse their Phase 2 development with the City, before construction commences. Leasing activities continue in the Phase 1 development.

#### 729 Ridgewood Avenue (Brigil Developments)

Today, September 13, City Council unanimously approved the zoning bylaw amendment application to permit Brigil Developments to proceed at 729-735 Ridgewood Avenue.

After extensive public consultation with neighbours, the community and my office, the final proposal addressed a number of outstanding community concerns, including building height and placement, entry/exit lane, retail capacity. The development will include 4 buildings (444 units total), with the tower reduced to 20-storeys in height, 527 residential, visitor and commercial parking spaces and 227 bicycle parking spaces.

## **CITY OF OTTAWA**

### **Council hires new City Manager**

On August 23, City Council approved hiring Wendy Stephanson as its new City Manager. Ms. Stephanson will officially assume the role for five years, starting September 1. She had been serving as acting City Manager since November 2022 and is the former City Treasurer.

On September 1, we said goodbye and happy retirement to Rick O'Connor, City Clerk and former City Solicitor, after a 35 year career. He will be truly missed.

City Council expects to appoint a new General Manager of Planning and Economic Development later this year, following the departure of Stephen Willis last summer.

### **Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Depots**

#### **Carp Road Snow Dump - Westbrook Road**

**Date:** Sunday, October 1

**Hours of Operations:** 8 am to 4 pm

**Location:** 200 Westbrook Road – Westbrook Snow Dump

#### **Orleans Snow Dump - Mer Bleue Rd**

**Date:** Sunday, October 22

**Hours of Operations:** 8 am to 4 pm

**Location:** 2170 Mer Bleue Road – Innes Snow Dump

### **Avoiding Problems with Wildlife**

The City of Ottawa continues to review the City's Wildlife Strategy. Staff anticipate bringing forward recommendations to the Environment and Climate Change Committee in Q4 of 2023.

The City is home to many animal species that flourish in an urban environment. This includes unwanted wildlife or species such as squirrels, mice and rats that can damage homes or properties, and which may in rare cases transmit disease.

Remember that these animals have the same basic needs as we do: food, water, and shelter. Many of our daily activities can create the conditions that invite these animals into our homes and on our properties. To decrease the likelihood of attracting unwanted animals to your home or property, consider these simple tips:

**Maintain or remove bird feeders:** Putting out feeders is a popular way to attract birds to your yard. However, if the feeder is easily accessible or if birdseed falls and remains on the ground, then other unwanted animals will take advantage of the food source.

**Bring pet bowls inside:** Food and water bowls that are intended for your pets are another common attraction for unwanted animals. This can place your pet at greater risk of injury or disease, either from fighting or from sharing their bowl with sick stray or wild animals.

**Secure garbage:** Maintain compost bins to prevent animals from entering and secure both indoor and outdoor garbage in animal-proof containers with tight fitting lids. When possible, bring garbage cans and bags to the curb as close to pick up time as possible to reduce access for animals.

**Dogs in parks:** Parks are a great place to exercise your dog, but keep in mind that other people also use those parks and you have a responsibility to control your dog(s) at all times. All parks have a dog designation. They are: dogs permitted, off-leash, dogs permitted, on-leash, or dogs prohibited.

**Feral Cats:** Feral cats are cats with no owner. They roam freely and live as wild animals.

The Ottawa Humane Society believes in the following approach to managing cats in the city:

- Proper licensing and identification
- Neutering to prevent roaming and unwanted kittens
- Vaccinating to prevent the spread of disease
- Only allowing cats outside on a harness and under owner supervision
- Not feeding stray cats

### **Please do not feed wildlife**

Feeding wildlife may seem harmless and the kind thing to do, but it can have serious impacts to both wild animals and the community. Here are a few reasons why:

- It alters their natural instincts. Wild animals are skilled foragers and hunters and don't need food from people.
- It conditions them to expect food from people and may increase their presence which can create problems for the community.
- Human food is very unhealthy for animals. Wild animals can find higher-quality food on their own.
- Feeding small animals like birds, squirrels or rabbits may attract rodents and larger predators such as foxes and coyotes.
- Feeding wildlife also increases the risk of transmitting diseases such as avian influenza to large animal populations.

# OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY UPDATE

## Report 1 – River Ward Library Services

This report is a result of a City Council motion I moved during the 2023 Budget deliberations and meeting that I hosted with community leaders and OPL staff in June 2023.

The document outlines the following:

- Context and a general recap of the discussion and feedback we heard at the meeting on June 15
- Priorities that OPL can action in the short-term
- Priorities that OPL can action in the long-term
- Priorities that require additional support
- A selection of recent OPL activity in River Ward

### Priorities that OPL can action in the short-term:

- Increased children’s programming.
- Increased teen programming.
- Increased promotion of Homebound services.
- Continued outreach and community event participation.

### Library service recommendations for 2023:

#### Continuing as usual:

- Vending Kiosk, holds lockers, and return bin at Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre
- Bookmobile stops
- Monthly storytimes at Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre (September, October, November, December)
- Community outreach & special event activities
- School visits

#### New for Q4:

- Monthly storytimes at Carlington Community Centre (to be promoted on OPL events web page) (October, November, December)
- Suggest daytime Family Storytime because City staff indicated that there are already programs for school-aged kids at the Community Centre during the after-school hours.
- Monthly storytimes at Banff Ledbury Community Centre (to be promoted on OPL events web page) o October, November, December
- Suggest daytime Family Storytime because City staff indicated that there are already programs for school-aged kids at the Community Centre during the after-school hours.
- Outreach and information campaign about Homebound Services.
- To celebrate Library Month in October, OPL will partner with Manock Lual from Prezidential Basketball. Manock is dedicated to bridging the gap faced by disadvantaged youth in Ottawa, and particularly racialized teens living in low-income communities. OPL will co-host three events in River Ward in October, where we will promote literacy and social inclusion by disseminating free copies of the young adult book *Stamped* by Jason Reynolds.

#### Next steps:

In conjunction with City Recreation staff, OPL staff will confirm room bookings for the above-mentioned storytimes and will create promotional materials to advertise them. OPL will also distribute information about homebound services to recreation centers, retirement homes, community partners, and local organizations in River Ward. As

well, OPL will continue to attend outreach and community events in 2023. OPL will evaluate these programs and services on an ongoing basis to determine future activities and plans.

Report 2- Facilities Framework Gap Analysis and Prioritization Criteria

File Number: OPLB-2023-0912-10.2

**Report Recommendations:**

**That the Ottawa Public Library Board:**

1. **Receive the gap analysis, as attached in Document 1, and further described in this report;**
2. **Approve changes to the Equity scoring matrix, as further described in this report;**
3. **Approve changes to the Distance scoring matrix, as further described in this report;**
4. **Approve the prioritization list, as attached in Document 2 – Table 2, as further described in this report;**
  - a. **Direct staff to reassess the prioritization list with new data provided by the Neighbourhood Equity Index, and to report back if there are significant differences;**
5. **Approve the closure of capital order # 910218 Carlington Community Branch and direct staff to return the remaining balance to the Library Reserve; and,**
6. **Direct staff to deliver the complete Facilities Master Plan to the Board in Q1 of 2025.**

History and Background:

In September 2016, the OPL Board received and approved report OPLB-2016-0181 Facilities Framework and Investment and Growth Planning. The document set out to provide a Facilities Framework; confirm OPL's Branch Renewal Priorities (2016- 2021); and identify OPL's New Library Building Priorities. The 2016 Facilities Framework was intended to provide staff with an approach to ensure that existing library facilities are properly maintained, renewed and/or retrofitted to deliver modern day library services that meet customer needs, and to describe and define when and where new library facilities are built. However, while the document provided for drivers of change in general terms there were no established criteria to support decision-making and priority setting. As such, in 2020 staff committed to developing a complete Facilities Master Plan to support asset management, address current demands and future growth needs, enable long-term sustainability and fiscal ability to manage requirements.

In April 2022, the Board approved OPL's new Service Delivery Framework (SDF) (OPLB-2022-0503), which describes the overarching services offered as well as the ways the public can access those services. The SDF identified five service categories: Collections, Expertise, Programs, Spaces, and Tools, and identified the three channels of delivery: Virtual, Facility, and Mobile. The Facilities Framework identifies OPL's approach to facilities to support the delivery of in-person services at OPL locations.

In November 2022, the Board approved the Facilities Framework (OPLB-2022-1108- 10.2). As part of that report, staff were directed to use the approved decision criteria to complete an assessment of library facility gaps and to report back to the Board no later than Q3 2023 with the prioritized list.

The purpose of this report is to report back to the Board with the findings from the gap analysis (Document 1), to seek Board approval for changes to the Decision Matrix and approval of the prioritization list (Document 2), to obtain approval to proceed with closing one capital account, and to provide an outline of the next steps for the development of the Facilities Master Plan.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

OPL's Facilities Master Plan (FMP) is intended to combine results and outcomes from the Facilities Framework and the Asset Management Plan, as described below. The FMP is unique and specific to OPL and developed within the Ottawa context with consideration of the wide geographic boundaries, the City's New Official Plan, and library-specific industry trends including the role of libraries as public spaces. The Facilities Framework outlines OPL's approach to the Facility Channel, as per the Service Delivery Framework. It is one way that OPL delivers services to clients.

OPL's Facility Framework outlines a two-step decision process to inform prioritization for new facility development. Step 1 is the Gateway Criterion which identifies neighbourhoods with a facilities gap based on the neighborhood's proximity to an existing public library branch. Neighbourhoods identified by Step 1 – Gateway Criterion subsequently progress to Step 2, to be assessed against the Prioritization Criteria, which consider three factors: equity, distance, and growth. Each neighborhood is assessed against these factors using a weighted decision matrix to reach a prioritization score, with neighborhoods ultimately ranked by score.

#### **RIVER WARD IMPACTS:**

A recommended prioritization matrix was developed as a result of the city-wide assessment that recommends new OPL facilities, ranking the top 30 neighbourhoods.

Old Hunt Club ranks 5<sup>th</sup> on the OPL prioritization list, Riverside Park – Mooney's Bay ranks 8<sup>th</sup>, Carleton Heights – Courtland Park ranks 11<sup>th</sup> and Riverside Park South – Revelstoke ranks 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ULTIMATE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE:**

I spoke at the OPL meeting on September 12, requesting a one month deferral to allow the community an opportunity to review the report, its findings and recommendations. While I appreciate that the gap analysis report identifies gaps in much of River Ward, the OPL Board has a responsibility to determine how best to serve Carlington, based on feedback shared by community leaders and library service advocates.

The OPL Board, guided by the new CEO, did not see it that way. They voted to approve the set of recommendations that not only discontinued the Carlington Community Branch fund, they accepted a gap analysis with no recognition for Carlington's needs. They are all well aware of the potential partnership with the City to use

the 2,500 square foot gymnasium in the Alexander CC. At this point, a small branch in the ACC is unlikely. The next best outcome will be to schedule programming and services from the OPL in to the Centre on a regular basis. The OPL has their own set of priorities and resource challenges, but there is a commitment, as bitter as it may taste at this moment in time, to further expand services in our community.

## **AROUND RIVER WARD**

### **Cleaning the Capital Fall Campaign**

This year's Cleaning the Capital Fall campaign will proceed with registration starting August 15, for cleanup projects taking place between September 15 and October 15. Participants can register their cleanup projects by using the online registration form available at [ottawa.ca/clean](http://ottawa.ca/clean). The registration form populates an interactive map, showing which locations have been chosen for cleanup projects. Cleanup kits, which include garbage bags, recycling bags, and gloves, will be made available for pick-up by registrants at one of ten City of Ottawa facilities across the city.

Key Fall campaign dates:

- **September 15 to October 15:** Cleaning the Capital Fall campaign
- **October 1:** Deadline to register
- **October 31:** Deadline to submit online cleanup reports

## **FESTIVALS UPDATE**

The 2023 Festivals season is now over in Riverside Park – Mooney's Bay.

Large festivals started with the Dragon Boat Festival in June and ended with AfroFest last weekend. All festivals or special events with an expected attendance of 500+ must work with the Special Events staff of the City to review the event details and ensure public safety issues are addressed. This year, an on-site Bylaw officer, paid by the Festival, monitored noise and parking issues during Dragon Boat and HOPE. Changes to Ridgewood Avenue traffic flow during the Lebanese Festival were instituted this year and I shortened the noise bylaw exemption by one hour on the Sunday night of the Festival to 10pm.

I will survey households in the Mooney's Bay neighbourhood this autumn to ascertain their continued support for seasonal parking restrictions on our local streets.

Bylaw will no longer look the other way during non-Festival days and will now ticket vehicles parked in No Parking zones. I believe the streets that abut the park/beach should retain their restrictions during the entire summer, ie status quo, but streets that do not see beach traffic, could possibly see temporary parking restrictions posted and in force on the key festival dates. This means that on streets further away from the park/beach, the restrictions would



come down after the Lebanese Festival in late July. That said, my plan is to provide the public with a few options to reflect on and provide me their thoughts.

<b>Festival</b>	<b>Number of Noise Complaints</b>	<b>Noise Bylaw Tickets Issued</b>	<b>Parking Tickets Issued</b>
Ottawa Dragon Boat June 22-25	33	0	57
Hope Beach Volleyball July 14-15	2	0	73
Lebanese Festival July 19-23	24	1	129
Afro Festival Sept 8-9	22	0	1

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **River Ward Holiday Dinner**

River Ward's Holiday Dinner is Back! Please join me in celebration of the holiday season with your friends, family and neighbours for a holiday meal!

When: December 21 at 5pm

Where: Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre, 3320 Paul Anka Dr

Admission: FREE

**RSVP at [Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca](mailto:Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca)**

Accepting non-perishables for the Ottawa Food Bank

**Riley Brockington**  
**September 13, 2023**