

Riverside Park Community Association

Annual Members Meeting – Draft Minutes

Date: October 22, 2025

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Prepared from: Zoom meeting transcript

Status: Draft for review and approval

Note: The available transcript begins approximately nine minutes into the recording. Attendance, confirmation of quorum, call to order, approval of the agenda, and any business conducted before that point are therefore not included in these draft minutes.

1. Councillor's Community Update

Councillor Riley Brockington provided an extensive update on current and upcoming issues affecting Riverside Park and the surrounding area.

Development and Confederation Heights

The Councillor discussed ongoing and proposed development in and around the community, including the potential for a mix of office, residential, retail and commercial uses in areas well served by transit.

Development plans discussed include significant residential growth, new public and private streets, and public park space. The importance of ensuring that Riverside Park residents are included in the planning and design of future park space and other community amenities was emphasized.

A question was raised regarding whether the existing Line 2 station serving Confederation Heights would have sufficient capacity to accommodate the substantial population growth being contemplated.

The Councillor advised that the station platform had been lengthened as part of the Trillium Line expansion. While the station currently has capacity, future growth will need to be monitored and may require further consideration by OC Transpo.

Airport Parkway / Walkley / McCarthy Transportation Projects

The Councillor reviewed the series of transportation projects planned for the Airport Parkway, Walkley Road and McCarthy Road area.

The work is expected to occur in phases rather than as one project. The first phase will include work associated with the Airport Parkway off-ramp.

Other planned or contemplated improvements include:

- changes to the Walkley Road/McCarthy Road area;
- a roundabout;
- improvements to active transportation connections;

- improved access to transit stations;
- pedestrian and cycling connections;
- measures intended to reduce neighbourhood cut-through traffic; and
- modifications to intersections affected by changing traffic patterns.

The Councillor noted that considerable community consultation has occurred over the years and that concerns raised by Riverside Park and neighbouring communities have influenced the design.

Specific attention continues to be given to preventing additional traffic from diverting onto residential streets such as Southmore, Thorndale and Provo.

The Councillor has asked staff to examine mitigation measures proactively rather than waiting until cut-through traffic becomes an established problem.

The design also contemplates a “**Welcome to Riverside Park**” sign at the roundabout, both as community identification and as a visual cue that motorists are entering a residential neighbourhood.

Baseline Rapid Transit Corridor

The Councillor reported that the refreshed Transportation Master Plan identifies the Baseline rapid bus corridor as a priority.

Phase 1 is planned between Billings Bridge and Algonquin College. Dedicated bus infrastructure is contemplated along Baseline Road, using the median rather than removing existing general-purpose travel lanes.

Mooney’s Bay Hill

An update was provided on the feasibility study concerning safe tobogganing at Mooney’s Bay Hill.

The study resulted from a Council motion requesting a professional assessment of the hill and recommendations for measures that could permit safe tobogganing.

The study was expected to be completed by the end of October.

Mooney’s Bay Geese Management

The City has been testing a remote-controlled device to move geese away from heavily used park areas.

The Councillor reported that the approach does not harm the geese and has been effective in temporarily moving them from areas where goose droppings interfere with public use of the park.

Non-Motorized Watercraft at Mooney’s Bay

The Councillor reported progress toward formally permitting the launching of kayaks, canoes and other non-motorized personal watercraft at Mooney’s Bay.

The proposed arrangement would provide launching areas at the north and south ends of the beach, away from the area with the highest concentration of swimmers.

Paget Park / Brookfield Pathway

The pathway connecting Springland Drive to the Brookfield High School parking area had deteriorated significantly.

Repairs have now been completed, including portions where ownership presented complications.

Seasonal Parking Restrictions

Seasonal parking restrictions affecting approximately 22 streets in Riverside Park North and the Mooney's Bay area were reviewed.

The Councillor reported that **766 parking tickets** were issued during the four principal festival periods over the summer.

A new winter parking restriction is also being introduced on one side of Flannery Drive between Lynnhurst and Malden to allow snowplows to operate safely and effectively.

Rideau River Footbridge

The footbridge connecting Vincent Massey Park and Carleton University was discussed.

A solution has been identified to allow improvements to the bridge deck to support four-season use. Work had been planned for the university reading week but was delayed because of materials. Completion was anticipated for late October or early November.

Riverside Drive Speeding and Street Racing

Ongoing speeding and street racing on Riverside Drive remain concerns.

The Councillor advised that he has discussed the matter with the Ottawa Police Chief. Enforcement activities elsewhere may have displaced some racing activity into Riverside Park.

Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras

Considerable discussion took place regarding the Province's proposed removal of municipal authority to operate automated speed-enforcement cameras.

The Councillor expressed concern that the cameras have been effective at reducing speeds in locations where conventional enforcement resources are limited.

Alternative measures discussed included:

- flashing speed signs;
- additional signage;
- physical traffic-calming measures;
- roundabouts; and
- other road-design interventions.

The Councillor indicated that he would like streets currently using cameras to receive priority consideration for replacement safety measures if the cameras are removed.

Questions were also raised regarding possible legal action. The Councillor advised that the City's legal staff required further details of the provincial legislation before determining what options may be available.

2. Comprehensive Zoning By-law

The Association discussed the City's comprehensive zoning by-law review.

The new zoning framework follows adoption of the Official Plan and is intended to establish how anticipated population growth will be accommodated throughout Ottawa.

The Councillor noted that every neighbourhood will be affected and that the matter was expected to proceed to committee and Council over the coming months.

Riverside Drive and Walkley Road

Discussion focused on proposed mixed-use/commercial zoning along Riverside Drive and Walkley Road.

The potential for greater local commercial activity was discussed, including whether future zoning could support more neighbourhood-scale businesses and services.

It was noted that parts of Walkley Road already permit uses beyond strictly residential development.

Southern Corridor / Development Reserve

Particular concern was expressed about lands along the southern corridor near the railway and hydro corridors.

The meeting heard that earlier mapping had identified portions of these lands as environmentally protected, while subsequent drafts designated areas as **Development Reserve (DR)**.

Concern was expressed that the DR designation could leave the lands open to future development rather than maintaining them primarily as green space, natural areas and active-transportation corridors.

Riverside Park and Hunt Club were working together on this issue.

Community members were encouraged to become informed and provide their views, whether supporting or opposing the proposed designation.

The Association was preparing to participate in a Federation of Citizens' Associations process to practise and prepare delegations regarding the zoning by-law.

Concern was also expressed about how substantial population intensification would be accompanied by adequate parks, tree canopy, transportation capacity and other community infrastructure.

3. President's Report

The President discussed the Association's longer-term role in community engagement and volunteer participation.

Changing Community Demographics

Discussion focused on Ottawa's changing age profile, including growth in the population aged 65 and older and the implications of generational wealth transfer.

The President raised broader questions about how younger adults will establish financial security, obtain housing and find meaningful employment in Ottawa.

Student and Youth Engagement

The Association has begun working with university students through a community-engagement initiative.

Approximately ten students were identified as working specifically with Riverside Park as part of a broader program involving several community associations.

The student work includes environmental and community issues, including invasive plants.

The President described this as an opportunity to develop stronger relationships with younger adults and involve them directly in community issues.

Equity and Community Development

Discussion also addressed differences in socioeconomic conditions within and around Riverside Park.

The President emphasized the importance of considering not only physical development but also the economic and social structure of the future community.

Questions raised included:

- What type of local economy should Riverside Park support?
- How can new zoning encourage neighbourhood-scale businesses?
- Where will younger residents work?
- How can community gathering places and local businesses strengthen neighbourhood relationships?
- How should intensification contribute to a more complete community rather than simply increasing the number of housing units?

The Councillor agreed that the zoning framework largely establishes what can physically be built but does not, by itself, determine the economic activity that will occur within those buildings.

The importance of continued public awareness and participation in the zoning process was emphasized.

4. Financial Report

The Association's year-end financial position and multi-year financial trends were presented.

The Association's principal recurring revenue sources remain:

1. membership revenue; and
2. revenue associated with management of community outdoor rinks.

Other revenues vary from year to year.

Interest income for the year was slightly above **\$1,000**, reflecting higher interest rates.

Membership revenue has been gradually declining, and efforts are continuing to encourage expired members to renew.

Garden plot rentals generated approximately **\$309**, with available plots continuing to be well used.

Expenses reviewed included:

- banking and transaction costs;
- website, accounting, membership and Zoom software;
- volunteer-related expenses;
- garden materials and soil;
- insurance;
- office and equipment purchases;
- rink repairs and maintenance;
- rink supervision;
- community sponsorships; and
- community events.

Rink supervision represented the Association's largest operating expense. Because of favourable winter conditions for skating, the rinks remained open longer than originally budgeted, resulting in approximately **\$1,500–\$1,800** in additional rink-related spending.

The Association intentionally used some accumulated rink funds to provide the extended service.

At July 31, approximately **\$2,400** remained in the operating bank account. Investments had not been drawn down and continued to earn interest.

Total Association equity was reported at approximately **\$30,871**, with no material outstanding liabilities.

It was emphasized that the Association remains financially stable but is highly dependent on rink-management revenue. Maintaining reserves therefore remains important.

Motion – Acceptance of Financial Statements

Motion: That the financial statements be accepted as presented.

Moved by: Gabriel

Seconded by: Dave

Result: Carried.

5. Waiver of Audit / Review Engagement

Members were reminded that the Association had circulated notice in advance concerning the proposed waiver of the annual audit or review engagement.

The cost of an audit/review engagement was discussed. Given the Association's financial scale, the expenditure was considered significant relative to available operating resources.

Members were advised that the waiver must be approved annually and applies only for the specified fiscal year.

Extraordinary Resolution

Motion: That the members of the Riverside Park Community Association, taking note of the requirements of Article 9 of its bylaws and by extraordinary resolution under the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, waive the requirement for an audit or review engagement for the fiscal year ending **July 31, 2026**.

An 80% majority was identified as being required.

Members attending in person and online were asked whether anyone opposed the resolution.

Result: Carried unanimously – 100% in favour, no opposition recorded.

6. 2026 Budget

The proposed 2026 budget was presented and compared with 2025 actual results.

Revenue assumptions were described as generally conservative.

Interest income is expected to decline as interest rates decrease. Membership revenue assumes modest improvement through recruitment and renewals.

Garden plot revenue is expected to remain relatively stable.

Expenses are expected to remain generally consistent with previous years, with some reductions in printing, marketing and software costs.

A 50% nonprofit discount had been obtained for Zoom, reducing future software costs.

Additional funds were included for rink repairs and maintenance, including possible snowblower repairs and assistance following major snowfalls.

The overall objective is to operate close to a balanced budget.

Outdoor Rink Risk

The major uncertainty in the budget is the operation of the Association's outdoor rinks.

Operators were not yet confirmed for two rinks, creating a potential loss of approximately **\$2,500–\$3,000 in operating income** if both could not operate.

The Association intends to continue recruiting volunteers and exploring ways to keep the rinks operating.

Members and residents interested in helping with rink operations were encouraged to contact the Association.

Motion – 2026 Budget

Motion: That the proposed 2026 budget be accepted as presented.

Moved by: Rob

Seconded by: *Name unclear in transcript.*

Result: Carried.

7. Election of Directors

Members were advised that director terms are two years and that, under the applicable governance requirements, directors were to be individually elected rather than simply acclaimed.

New Director – Sarah Nichols

Sarah Nichols introduced herself as an 11-year resident of the community.

She expressed an interest in giving back to Riverside Park, strengthening community connections and becoming involved in traffic-calming issues.

Motion: That Sarah Nichols be elected to the position of Director.

Moved by: Chair/President

Seconded by: Gabriel

Result: Carried unanimously.

Sarah Nichols was welcomed to the Board.

Returning Directors

The following directors were presented for re-election:

- Kevin
- Gabriel
- Marianne
- Rob
- John
- Dave

Each candidate was considered individually.

No opposition was recorded.

Result: All returning directors were re-elected for two-year terms.

A subsequent Board meeting/Zoom session will be arranged to confirm officer positions, individual responsibilities and committee roles.

8. Volunteer Recruitment and Outdoor Rinks

The Association reiterated the need for additional rink volunteers and operators.

The Board indicated that existing volunteers would make every reasonable effort to keep the rinks operating for the coming winter, but a sustainable volunteer base is required.

A particular need was identified for an operator for the Paget Park rink.

A participant offered to assist with rink operations.

The Association will continue communicating the volunteer opportunity through its mailing list and community channels.

9. Communications

A technical issue affecting delivery of some Association Mailchimp messages was discussed.

Changes had been made to the Association's mail-server/domain settings to improve authentication and reduce the likelihood of messages being blocked.

The Association will monitor subsequent email delivery and open rates.

New directors will also be provided with Association email accounts for Board communications.

10. Next Board Meeting

The Board will arrange a Zoom meeting in the near term to:

- confirm Board officer positions and responsibilities;
- orient the new director;
- discuss committee and volunteer assignments; and
- address upcoming community activities as required.

The timing of the next regular meeting was discussed, including whether a November meeting would be useful given upcoming holiday activities.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Result: Carried.

The meeting concluded with thanks to members, volunteers and directors for their continuing support of the Riverside Park community.

Action Items

1. Comprehensive Zoning / Southern Corridor

Continue collaboration with Hunt Club and other community organizations concerning the Development Reserve designation and protection of green space. Prepare for upcoming delegations and invite community input.

2. Transportation and Traffic

Continue discussions with City staff regarding Walkley/McCarthy/Airport Parkway designs, cut-through traffic mitigation, traffic calming and replacement measures should automated speed cameras be removed.

3. Development / Confederation Heights

Continue monitoring development proposals, transit capacity and opportunities for Riverside Park residents to participate in the planning of parks and community amenities.

4. Outdoor Rinks

Continue recruiting rink operators and volunteers, with particular attention to Paget Park and other locations where operators are not confirmed.

5. Board Organization

Schedule a Board Zoom meeting to confirm officer positions, portfolios and responsibilities following the election.

6. Sarah Nichols

Set up an Association email account and complete Board orientation.

7. Membership

Continue efforts to renew expired memberships and recruit new members through community events and communications.

8. Email Communications

Monitor Mailchimp delivery following changes to domain/email authentication settings.

9. Student Engagement

Continue working with university students and explore opportunities for broader resident participation in youth, environmental and community-development initiatives.

10. 2026 Budget

Monitor rink revenue and operating costs closely, particularly if one or more rinks cannot operate during the coming winter.