



**RIVER WARD CITY COUNCILLOR MARIA McRAE'S REPORT TO  
THE RIVERSIDE PARK COMMUNITY  
September 7, 2011**

**Hunt Club Riverside Park CommFest**

**Date:** Saturday, September 10, 2011

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre  
3320 Paul Anka Drive (at McCarthy Road)

**Drop by! I look forward to seeing you.**

**City Councillor Maria McRae's  
Annual Autumn Tea for River Ward Seniors**

**Date:** Friday, October 21, 2011

**Time:** 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

**Place:** Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre  
3320 Paul Anka Drive (at McCarthy Road)

Entertainment  
Refreshments and Snacks  
Door Prizes  
Seniors' Information Table

**Please call 613-580-2486 to reserve your ticket(s).**

### **Bank Street Community Design Plan**

A joint Public and Business Advisory Committee meeting was held at the Jim Durrell Recreation complex on August 25, 2011. At this meeting, attendees were updated on various revisions to the Bank Street CDP, and voiced their recommendations. A third Public Open House is tentatively scheduled for late September 2011 – further details will follow shortly. Thank you to Jeff Atkinson, the RPCRA member who has represented your community at these meetings.

If you are interested in learning more about the Bank Street CDP, please contact my office at 613-580-2486 or visit the Bank Street CDP website at [www.ottawa.ca/bank](http://www.ottawa.ca/bank).

### **Heron Road (South) Bridge Update**

Construction is ongoing for the south bridge on Heron Road, and is on track for completion in November/December 2011, weather permitting. Over the course of the next few weeks, contractors will jack the bridge for bearing replacement, install the expansion joint and rebuild the east abutment, among other work. I will keep you posted as this project continues.

### **Airport Parkway Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge Update**

Contractors are making great progress on construction of the Airport Parkway Pedestrian and Cycling Bridge. The bottom half of the bridge's main tower is formed and the steel and concrete will be placed in the coming weeks. Additional work will be done on the columns at piers 4, 5 and 6, and the footings along the west abutment at piers 1, 2 and 3. The existing underpass was removed and backfilled, and will be poured in September.

City staff continue to monitor traffic at this site, and as a result of input received, the regulatory speed through the construction zone was reduced to 60 km/h.

### **Riverside Drive Widening and Sidewalk Upgrade Update**

Construction is wrapping up for the widening of Riverside Drive and sidewalks are complete. City staff are in the process of cleaning up and will be laying "top course" asphalt in the coming weeks to complete the project.

### **Confederation Heights Station Pathway**

A new multiuse pathway connecting residents to the Confederation Heights OTrain Station was constructed through the Federal Stimulus program in 2010. The \$145,000 pathway, leading south from the rapid transit station, connects to the Flannery/Brookfield Roundabout and to the existing Brookfield pathway. This new off-road walking and cycling link permits access by foot or bicycle to both Heron Road and the OTrain. The new pathway is a segment of the future longer distance multiuse pathway that will follow the Sawmill Creek and link Hunt Club Road to Heron Road and beyond.

I am working with a Riverside Park resident and City staff from various departments to address community safety inquiries.

### **Tree Planting on the Airport Parkway**

Over the course of the summer, City staff planted in excess of 1500 trees along the west side of the Airport Parkway, south of Brookfield Road.

### **Festivals in Riverside Park – By-law and Noise Violation Update**

- Tim Horton’s Dragonboat Festival – June 18 and 19
  - No by-law or noise violations issued.
  - Parking violations in surrounding neighbourhood: 2
- H.O.P.E. Beach Volleyball Festival – July 16
  - No by-law or noise violations issued.
  - Complaints regarding parking in surrounding neighbourhood: 15
- Ottawa Lebanese Fest – July 20 to 24
  - No by-law or noise violations issued.
  - Complaints regarding parking in surrounding neighbourhood: 4
- Ottawa Folk Festival – August 25 to 29
  - No by-law or noise violations issued.
  - Complaints regarding parking in surrounding neighbourhood: 1

In the coming weeks, Riverside Park will host several additional events, including:

- Winners Walk of Hope (September 11, 2011)
- Carleton University Fall Orientation (September 5, 6 and 9, 2011)
- Ottawa Mission “Big Pull” (September 24, 2011)

City Staff work diligently throughout these events to ensure that all by-laws are enforced.

### **Emerald Ash Borer Update**

Approximately 25% of trees within Ottawa are ash trees, making them susceptible to infection with the Emerald Ash Borer. City staff have identified a significant level of insect activity on several major artery roadways, such as Heron Road and Walkley Road, and in other neighbourhoods in Riverside Park.

Staff inoculated trees in Pauline Vanier Park and Mooney’s Bay Park by completing injections of pesticides that prevent the Emerald Ash Borer from affecting treated trees. Tree planting to replace infected trees is planned along major roads during Fall 2011 and residential streets during Spring 2012.

### **Mayor's Seniors Summit**

Mayor Jim Watson is hosting a Seniors Summit at City Hall on October 3, 2011. The Summit will bring together over 200 seniors from across the City of Ottawa, and will focus exclusively on issues that affect this demographic. The Summit is an opportunity for seniors to share their ideas and provide input into future service decisions made by the City. Registration for the Summit has already begun at [ottawa.ca/seniors](http://ottawa.ca/seniors).

The Summit will feature facilitated discussion groups that are focused on services the City provides. Themes include:

- Transportation
- Housing
- Social and Recreational Services
- Community and Health Support Services
- Civic Participation and Volunteering
- Public Safety and Security.

In addition to these discussion groups, participants will hear from two key note speakers. David Cork will discuss the influence of baby boomers on the economy, while Dr. Louise Plouffe will focus on how to make an age-friendly city. A Summit Resource Fair will also run from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., providing seniors with information about City programs and services.

For those unable to attend the event at City Hall, Rogers Cable TV will broadcast the event live between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. in both French and English. Seniors can also participate by calling 613-580-2605 or e-mailing questions to [seniors@ottawa.ca](mailto:seniors@ottawa.ca) so they can be answered live from the floor by the Mayor.

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

The fall *Cleaning the Capital* campaign begins on September 15 and runs until October 15. I invite everyone to get involved to help keep our city clean, green and free of litter and graffiti. With your help, River Ward can be the cleanest ward in the City.

You can begin by selecting a cleanup location where litter or graffiti has accumulated. It can be a park, woodlot, ravine, shoreline, bus stop, pathway, schoolyard or any public property requiring tidying up. Large or small, all cleanup projects are welcome! Once you choose your cleanup location, register online at [ottawa.ca/clean](http://ottawa.ca/clean) or call 3-1-1 (TTY: 613-580-2401). Register on or before September 14 for your chance to win early-bird prizes.

The registration form also includes a section for our Cleanup Starter Kits. Cleanup Starter Kits for litter pickup and/or graffiti removal projects donated by our campaign sponsors, and are available to all registered volunteers. Should you wish to receive a kit, please indicate the type (litter or graffiti) and select a pick up location nearest you.

Every year, entire communities – including schools, neighbourhood organizations and associations, businesses, families, friends and individuals take part in the Cleaning the Capital challenge. A record 91,305 participants made the 2010 edition of Cleaning the Capital the most successful campaign to date! Let's build on last year's success and make 2011 another record year! Together we can help keep Ottawa clean, green, graffiti-free and litter-free.

### **Give Away Weekends**

The City of Ottawa is holding one more city-wide “Garbage Give Away Weekend” in 2011. The Give Away Weekend takes place on October 22 and 23, 2011. Council approved this plan to allow residents to give away objects they no longer want by simply placing them at the end of their driveway.

Here are some guidelines for setting out treasures:

- Place items at the curb
- Place stickers or signs on items with the word “FREE”
- At the end of each day, bring any uncollected gems back to your home

The intent of the program is to help residents reuse household items that otherwise might end up in local landfills. The City of Ottawa is calling on community groups and residents to participate in Give Away Weekend, and help discover the hidden treasures in your neighbourhood, community, and city. It’s another way to RETHINK GARBAGE and protect our most precious treasure – our environment.

### **Household Hazardous Waste Depot Days**

To help dispose of household hazardous waste, the City of Ottawa operates several one-day depot days. This month you can bring your corrosive, flammable or poisonous household waste to the following depots:

- Sunday, September 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m - BFI (formerly WSI)
  - 3354 Navan Road (south of Innes Road)
- Sunday, September 25, 2011 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m - Waste Management
  - 254 Westbrook Road (off Carp Road, south of Highway 417)

### **Integrated Road Safety Program - September Initiatives**

*School zone safety*, including *school buses* and *tailgaters*, is the focus for September’s Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP).

In 2010, tailgating caused 4,950 rear-end collisions and resulted in two deaths and 1,345 injuries. Rear-end collisions account for one-third of Ottawa’s total collisions.

School zone and school bus safety are also serious issues. Over the past five years in Ottawa, 41 collisions have occurred due to motorists violating the school bus traffic control regulations. Eleven injuries resulted from these collisions and one injury victim was a school-age child exiting a school bus.

The penalties for a driver passing a stopped school bus include fines ranging from \$400 to \$2,000 and six demerit points for a first offence. A second offence yields the driver a fine between \$1,000 and \$4,000, six demerit points and a possible jail sentence of up to six months. Penalties may not be limited to the driver - the vehicle owner may also be charged for school bus traffic control violations, with fines ranging from \$400 to \$2,000.

Police officers are not required to witness these violations in order to lay charges against the vehicle owner. Citizens who witness such occurrences can contact the police to provide the make, model and colour of vehicle; license number; location, date and time of the incident; and, if possible, a description of the driver.