



**RIVER WARD CITY COUNCILLOR MARIA McRAE'S REPORT TO  
THE RIVERSIDE PARK COMMUNITY  
OCTOBER 5, 2011**

**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)

Accessible by bus routes 87 and 146

Entertainment  
Refreshments and Snacks  
Door Prizes  
Seniors' Information Table

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

**City of Ottawa Waste Recycling Fairs**

**Saturday, October 22, 2011 – 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
Walter Baker Sports Centre, 100 Malvern Drive  
Bob MacQuarrie Recreational Centre, 1490 Youville Drive

**Saturday, October 29, 2011 – 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**  
Jim Durrell Recreational Centre, 1265 Walkley Road  
Stittsville Community Centre, 10 Warner-Colpitts Lane

Pancake Breakfast  
Door Prizes  
Information on Recycling and Green Bins

**Please call 613-580-2486 or join us for more information.**



**Bank Street Community Design Plan**

Over the past year, great progress was made on the Bank Street Community Design Plan (CDP). Three public open houses allowed residents to learn more about the CDP and to provide feedback to help refine the plan, including the most recent open house which took place on October 4, 2011.

The proposed plan includes new multi-use pathways, bike routes and sidewalks, additional greenspace, a new transitway station at Walkley Road to accommodate the City's LRT plans, and road and infrastructure upgrades along Bank Street. Each improvement within the CDP will be separated into short, medium and long term time frames, with each phase lasting approximately five years.

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).

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

Construction of the bridge began in early July 2011 and it is beginning to take shape. Construction is expected to conclude before the start of the winter season, barring any unforeseen circumstances. Final landscaping will be done in the spring of 2012.

**Riverside Drive Construction**

The widening of Riverside Drive from Heron Road to Brookfield Road, which began in May 2011, is almost complete. An additional lane on both the northbound and southbound sides of the road is now in place, and all cable and watermains are buried underground. The project has now been turned over to the contractor for the final overlay of asphalt. It is expected that this work will be completed within coming weeks.

During construction, the intersection at Riverside Drive and Brookfield Drive was modified slightly to comply with the City's newly adopted regulations regarding intersection design. The Urban Smart Channel design allows drivers to gain a better perspective of oncoming traffic while making right hand turns.

Construction in this area followed the completion of modifications to the intersection of Riverside Drive and Heron Road in the spring of 2011. These projects will ultimately improve traffic flow and increase safety for both motorists and pedestrians.

**Heron Road Bridge Construction**

The contractor began construction on the north side of the Heron Road Bridge in spring 2011. This section is expected to be completed in early December 2011. Construction on the south section of the bridge will begin in spring 2012 and will take until the end of the construction season in December 2012 to complete. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained in both directions throughout all stages of construction.

**Riverside Park Street Speed Reduction**

Since last fall, I worked with several Riverside Park residents to reduce the speed limit on several streets in the community. The speed limit on Flannery Drive, Springland Avenue and Ridgewood Avenue is now 40 km/h. Signage is installed on each of these streets, indicating the change in speed limit. Thank you to the community members who worked together to complete Speed Reduction Petitions for each of these streets.

**Mooney's Bay Place Turn Restriction**

This past winter, residents living on Mooney's Bay Place and neighbouring streets experienced a decrease in traffic during the morning rush hour due to the implementation of a right-hand turn prohibition at Riverside Drive and Mooney's Bay Place from 7:00 to 9:00 a.m. Signage for this restriction was installed in February 2011. Thank you for continuing to work with my office to address traffic safety issues in your community.

**Community Safety and Crime Prevention Meeting**

I held my Annual Community Safety and Crime Prevention meeting at the Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre on May 16, 2011. Attendees had the opportunity to discuss issues of interest with representatives from City of Ottawa departments such as Traffic Management and the Ottawa Fire, Paramedic and Police Services.

**Strawberry Social for River Ward Seniors**

I hosted River Ward seniors at my Annual Strawberry Social on June 24, 2011. Mayor Jim Watson and other servers were on hand. Thank you to everyone who attended this afternoon of fun and fellowship!

**Snow Go and Snow Go Assist Programs**

On average we receive 235 cm of snow per year in Ottawa, in addition to an increasing amount of rain and freezing rain. Keeping our private driveways and walkways clear of snow and ice is challenging for everyone.

The *Snow Go Program* helps seniors and persons with disabilities find reliable and affordable snow removal services to clear snow from private driveways and walkways. Once matched up with snow removal help, residents are responsible for making payments directly to the individual or contractor. The *Snow Go Assist Program* provides financial assistance to eligible low-income seniors or persons with disabilities to assist with their snow removal costs. Approved participants may be reimbursed up to 50 per cent of the cost of snow clearing per event, to a seasonal maximum of \$250.

If you are interested in either of these programs, please call my office at 613-580-2486.

### **Community Input into Ottawa's Older Adult Action Plan**

Over the coming weeks, residents will be able to participate in eight community consultation sessions in order to provide input into Ottawa's Older Adult Action Plan. Each consultation session is limited to 25 people, so residents must register in advance at [ottawa.ca/seniors](http://ottawa.ca/seniors). The dates and times for the sessions are as follows (in English, unless otherwise noted):

- Friday, October 14 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Carp Memorial Hall, 3739 Carp Road, Carp
- Wednesday, October 19 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. (French)
  - Orléans Library Branch, 1705 Orléans Boulevard
- Tuesday, October 25 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Greely Community Centre, 1448 Meadow Drive, Greely
- Friday, November 4 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Orléans Library Branch, 1705 Orléans Boulevard
- Monday, November 7 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Sunnyside Library Branch, 1409 Bank Street
- Monday, November 14 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. (French)
  - City of Ottawa Central Archives, 100 Tallwood Drive
- Saturday, November 26 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - City of Ottawa Central Archives, 100 Tallwood Drive
- Monday, November 28 – 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
  - Navan Memorial Community Centre, 1295 Colonia Road, Navan

In addition to the in-person consultation sessions, residents can also complete an online survey at [ottawa.ca/seniors](http://ottawa.ca/seniors). This survey will also be available in paper copy by visiting one of the City's client service centres and can be completed over the phone by calling 613-234-4666, ext. 224. All of the information gathered this fall will lead toward the adoption of an Older Adult Plan by City Council in 2012.

### **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.

### **Budget 2012 – Open Houses**

To engage the community before budget tabling, a special e-mail address was created, budget2012@ottawa.ca. Residents are encouraged to make their voices heard. All suggestions shared via the email address that can be incorporated into the budget will be provided to management before tabling and identified to Council as part of the Draft Budget report to be tabled on October 26, 2011.

In addition, four community meetings will be held to present the draft budget to the public and to address specific questions or concerns the public may have. Meetings will be held at the following times and locations:

- Tuesday, November 1 – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
  - Richcraft Theatre, Shenkman Arts Centre, 245 Centrum Boulevard
- Wednesday, November 2 – 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
  - Cafetorium, Holy Trinity Catholic School, 180 Katimavik Road
- Thursday, November 3 – 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
  - Gymnasium, Rideauview Community Centre, 4310 Shoreline Drive
- Friday, November 4 – 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
  - Andrew Haydon Hall, Ottawa City Hall, 110 Laurier Avenue West

### **Integrated Road Safety Program**

#### ***October Initiative***

The City's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) will focus on those who fail to buckle up or comply with child car seat requirements, as well as drivers who fail to obey stop signs in October.

In Ottawa, from 2006 to 2010, 26 people were killed, 50 suffered life-threatening injuries and another 202 were injured as a result of not wearing vehicle occupant restraints. Of the 26 people that were killed, 20 were male.

At different times in the month, Ottawa Public Health nurses and the Ottawa Police will be setting up roadside spot-checks at locations in the city to ensure that motor vehicle occupants are wearing their seatbelts, and that child car seats and booster seats are suitable and properly installed.

Disobeying stop signs – including rolling stops – is also a serious issue on Ottawa roads. In 2010 alone, 1,618 collisions at stop sign-controlled intersections resulted in six deaths and 492 injuries – 23 of them life-threatening.

***Past Results***

<b>Month</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Results</b>
October 2010	Vehicle occupant restraints including child car seats and unsafe lane changing	419 tickets were given to vehicle occupants for failing to use a seatbelt or ensure the use of required child car seats, and 147 charges were laid for improper lane changing.
November 2010	Improper use of reserved transit lanes / yielding to buses and red light running	18 charges were laid for the improper use of Reserved Transit Lanes and 36 for travelling the wrong way on roadways. 353 charges were laid for red light running.
December 2010	Speeding and impaired driving	803 tickets were issued for speeding and the impaired driving initiative resulted in 91 alcohol-related criminal charges.
January 2011	Tailgating and stop sign running	78 motorists were caught tailgating, while stop sign running accounted for the majority of traffic tickets with 312 charges being laid.
February 2011	Distracted driving including use of handheld devices and unsafe lane changes	Hand-held communication devices account for 174 of the violations. An additional 124 were for improper lane changes, while careless drivers account for the remaining 45 tickets.
March 2011	Operating unsafe and heavy vehicles, and speeding	850 tickets were issued to drivers for unsafe and heavy/commercial vehicle infractions, and 2,128 charges were laid for speeding.
April 2011	Seatbelt and child car seat use	259 tickets were issued for failing to use a seatbelt or ensure the proper use of child car seats, while 224 motorists were caught running red lights.
May 2011	Running stop signs and speeding in construction zones	Speeding in construction zones resulted in 119 charges. Police issued 211 tickets to drivers for failing to obey stop signs.
June 2011	Impaired driving and cycling safety	Tickets were handed out for 121 impaired driving-related offences, and four R.I.D.E. programs stopped approximately 2,250 vehicles. The cycling safety initiative resulted in 339 offences.
July 2011	Speeding and unsafe lane changes	Speeding was the dominant violation with 1,474 charges, while 112 tickets were issued to drivers for unsafe lane changing.
August 2011	Pedestrian safety and red light running	20 pedestrians were charged with offences, and 13 charges went to motorists that failed to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Another 260 tickets were issued to motorists for running red lights.
September 2011	Seatbelt and child car seat use, and running stop signs	Not yet available.