



Councillor's Report

Riverside Park Community Association December 2, 2020

Budget 2021

There are a few major items I wish to bring to your attention that will impact our community:

- The budget contains funding to complete the final design of the Airport Parkway widening project. This stage will take two full years. If everything remains on schedule, widening of the Parkway will commence in 2023 and end in late 2024, including a roundabout at Walkley Road, calming measures on Walkley to McCarthy, and a new multi-use pathway, on the westside of the Parkway.
- The Walkley LRT station will commence construction in 2021. This will be an active construction site until late Spring 2022, as well as at Mooney's Bay Station.
- Riverside Drive between Walkley Road and Ridgewood will be repaved. It is likely that some nightwork will be required.
- \$933,000 is set aside in 2021 to complete the final design of the new Mooney Bay Pavilion. This will also include a new permanent washroom at the Canada 150 playground and a new garage for lawn/park maintenance vehicles. The design money does not include new watermain infrastructure which is also needed to supply the Pavilion. I am working with Parks and Rec to ensure all parties within the City are working together on this project.

Draft New Official Plan

The City of Ottawa is seeking your input as we develop a New Official Plan that will guide the physical development of Ottawa until 2046.

A draft of the New Official Plan is now available for review and comment at ottawa.ca/newop. On the City's website you will find a series of short surveys, arranged by theme, to help guide your feedback depending on your areas of

interest. You're welcome to offer feedback on any or all surveys. You can send questions to newop@ottawa.ca.

Some of the themes include: Intensification vs Regeneration, Urban Boundary Expansion, Climate Emergency, Affordable Housing, Infrastructure, Hubs and Corridors, and Greenspace.

The City will collect feedback on the draft New Official Plan until Wednesday, February 17, incorporating input into an updated version of the draft that will be presented in the spring of 2021 for discussion at a joint meeting of the City's Planning Committee and Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee. After that, City Council will consider the New Official Plan in the fall of 2021 and, once approved, it will go to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for final provincial approval.

The Official Plan proposes to eliminate approximately two dozen secondary plans in Ottawa, including four in River Ward and two in Riverside Park: Confederation Heights and Riverside Park Secondary Plans.

I would be pleased to coordinate a brief presentation from City staff at the January Board meeting to provide additional context and background to the new Official Plan and how it may impact Riverside Park.

Norberry Residences

Although I have provided my concurrence for site plan approval, city staff continue to discuss with the proponent regarding special conditions (relating to tree protection measures around a sidewalk) that needs to be cleared up with the applicant before the project can proceed. I will be certain to keep the RPCA up to date on this project as information is received. Once the site plan is approved, the next step is to register the site plan agreement. After that, building permit are released.

Future Developments in Riverside Park

The following is a development update for Riverside Park. These are currently all concept only and no applications have

officially been filed. I will continue to keep the community informed of any changes and future public meetings.

Brigil—Riverside Mall

My most recent discussion with Brigil representatives was on November 16.

They informed me that a revised proposal was being assembled that would reduce the original proposal from approx. 680 units to 550 units. They have reduced the north-west tower in height, as well as the building on their far east side, abutting the gardens homes. Their main entrance will move away from the Denbury, to a more central location, similar to where it is today.

They will also return to the Urban Design Review Panel (UDRP) to seek a peer review of their proposal.

An official application with the City of Ottawa's Planning Department has not yet been received.

St. Patrick's Home

The existing St. Patrick's Home opened in 2014. Phase 2 is now being considered and would be located on the north side of property between Riverside Drive and their parking lot.

The building being considered could be 7 storeys and contain approximately 140 units. I understand that St. Patrick's may be able to bring this development to the community by mid winter for a community discussion and information session.

Youth Services Bureau

The Youth Services Bureau is reviewing options to expand services in Riverside Park beside their current low-rise apartment building located at 2895 Riverside Drive. This would involve the demolition of the house to their immediate south, currently used for administrative offices. When the YSB is ready to share their vision with the community, I will facilitate a community discussion and information session.

Bank Street Renewal (Riverside Drive to Ledbury Avenue)

The vision for the Bank Street project is to construct a functioning and safe complete arterial main street with a well-balanced multi-modal transportation network which will cater to pedestrians, cyclists, transit and vehicles. To achieve this goal, some of the following aboveground and underground improvements are proposed:

- Full road reconstruction on Bank Street between Riverside Drive and Ledbury Avenue that includes cycle tracks in both directions and protected intersections

- Introduction of full height and mountable curb medians along sections of Bank Street
- Implement streetscaping features along Bank Street, including but not limited to new street furniture, streetlights, trees, concrete sidewalks, grassed sections and paver stones
- Reconstruction of sanitary sewer, storm sewer and replacement of distribution water mains within the project limits
- Review and improve bus stop and bus shelter locations
- Renewal of Bank Street Sawmill Creek culvert

On November 26, I attended a stakeholder meeting regarding the Bank Street Renewal Project. I was pleased to see the RPCA represented by Terry Wood.

I expressed concern that it was difficult to see the finer details of the project online and felt that an in person public meeting in the winter, with large maps in the Jim Durrell Arena, with controlled times to avoid crowding may be preferable.

I questioned the consultants regarding the lack of buried hydro lines, a traversable median, impact on businesses, the removal of channelized lanes (policy or practice) and traffic management during construction.

Timelines are as follows:

- January 2021 – Preliminary Design Completion
- Winter 2021 – Virtual Public Information Session
- November 2021 – Detail Design Completion
- Winter 2022 – Tender
- Early Spring 2022 – Commence Construction

I appreciate the input from the community and look forward to the winter session.

Road Closure Notice - Rand Ave

Rand Avenue from Garwood Avenue to Southmore Drive will be closed between November 30 and December 4 for connection of sanitary, storm, and water services to 900 Rand Avenue.

Hydro Pole Replacement on Walkley Road

Hydro Ottawa has notified my office about the upcoming hydro pole replacement on Walkley Road between Riverside Dr. and Bank St. The proposed construction dates are January 4 to March 31, 2021. There are 14 hydro poles that are considered 'end of life' along the north side of Walkley Rd.

Winter Maintenance Quality Standards Review

On average, 223.5 cm (or just over 7 feet) of snow falls on Ottawa during the winter. That is a lot of snow to be cleared by city crews on an annual basis. Right now, the City is reviewing their Winter Maintenance Quality Standards and they want to hear from you. You can review the project and provide your input at engage.ottawa.ca/wmqqs.

Watch for Snow Removal Contract Scams

Ottawa Bylaw Services would like to remind you that while many people who come to your door offering snow removal services are legitimate, you should always be diligent before making a purchase. Visit [Ottawa.ca](https://ottawa.ca) for helpful information and a list of licensed contractors.

Sponsor a Hamper with the Caring and Sharing Exchange

The Caring and Sharing Exchange Sponsor-a-Hamper program matches you with a family in need in the community to provide food assistance for the holidays. Through this program, you discuss with the family what they need and put together a food hamper with all the fixings for a festive Christmas meal! Sponsors also arrange a date and time to deliver the hamper to the family. For more information and to register, visit CaringandSharing.ca.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, please consider arranging a porch drop when delivering your hamper, wearing a mask and sanitizing your hands before and after delivery.

COVID-19 Testing Locations Expanded

As of Monday, November 16, the COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing Site on Coventry Road was closed to allow for the relocation of the testing site to the NAC and City Hall Parking Garages. Registered residents will be required to drive to City Hall (Elgin Entrance) first to sign in and then drive to the NAC parking garage, one block north, to be tested. The new Drive Thru site is anticipated to open on Thursday, November 19.

In addition to the new drive thru site, there are a number of other locations available in the downtown core for residents to acquire a COVID test. You can get tested at the Centretown Community Health Centre (420 Cooper St.), the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre (221 Nelson St.), and the Somerset West Community Health Centre (55 Eccles St.) The McNabb Community Centre also began COVID19 testing last week. All COVID-19 testing sites require appointments in advance. For more information: <https://www.ottawapublichealth.ca/en/shared-content/assessment-centres.aspx>

COVID-19 Vaccination Distribution Task

Force

With the news coming of positive results in the COVID-19 vaccination clinical trials, the City has proactively created a COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force to address the complex issue of vaccination distribution.

This Task Force will develop a comprehensive plan for vaccine distribution in Ottawa, working with key stakeholders to develop strategies for the orderly and coordinated distribution of possible vaccines. This proactive work will ensure a timely and coordinated distribution plan is ready should vaccines become available in the future

Winter Recreation and Arts eGuides

Stay active this winter and register for one or more City of Ottawa COVID-modified winter recreation and arts activities, starting on Monday, December 7 at 9 pm. In advance, browse our winter eGuides, which go online Monday, November 30, and discover our selection of recreation and arts activities.

Winter programming will include:

- Cross-country and skate-ski lessons for all ages and skill levels, including beginners, at the Terry Fox Athletic Centre, located at Mooney's Bay.
- Pottery, dance, digital arts, visual arts, multi-media, and music classes at the City's three arts centres: Nepean Creative Arts Centre, Nepean Visual Arts Centre and Shenkman Arts Centre.
- PA and winter break day camps for school-aged children between the ages of 4 and 12, featuring crafts, games and other social activities.
- Low-ratio inclusive recreation, PA days and winter break camp programs for children, youth and adults with disabilities.
- French instruction dance classes, PA days and winter break camp programs for pre-school and school-aged children.

Volunteers Needed for Local Outdoor

Rink Maintenance

Local outdoor winter ice rinks are maintained by volunteers in the community with support from the local community associations and the City of Ottawa. Without help from local volunteers, the community ice rinks would not be operational. If you are

interested in assisting with local ice rink maintenance and operations in River Ward, please contact my office. High school students are reminded that this provides a great opportunity to earn more volunteer hours towards fulfilling their mandatory 40 volunteer hours of community service.

I would like to thank all the rink volunteers in River Ward for their assistance in maintaining the outdoor rinks for the enjoyment of residents.

Indoor Public Skating opens

Indoor public skating will be available by reservation at eleven City arenas, starting Tuesday, December 1:

- Bob MacQuarrie Recreation Complex – Orléans
- CARDELREC Recreation Complex – Goulbourn
- Fred Barrett Arena
- [Jim Durrell Recreation Centre](#)
- Manotick Community Centre and Mike O'Neil Arena
- Navan Memorial Centre
- Nepean Sportsplex
- Sandy Hill Arena
- St-Laurent Complex
- W. Erskine Johnston Arena
- Walter Baker Sports Centre

Skating schedules from December 1 to 18 are available online at [Skating | City of Ottawa](#).

Currently, Ottawa is in the orange-restrict category which limits skating capacity to 25 skaters per rink.

You can reserve your 50-minute skate time up to two days in advance.

To reserve your skate:

- go to [Drop-in activities | City of Ottawa](#),
- click on the arena of choice.
- Click 'Schedules'
- In the schedules screen for that facility, you can click 'Reserve a spot for [name of facility]'
- This takes you to the City's Reservation FrontDesk website to reserve your time.

Letters to Santa

The Letters to Santa kits through the City of Ottawa Archives are 'sold out'. However, I have secured 20 kits and would like to provide them to anyone in River Ward who missed out.

Send an email to Andrea.Ward@Ottawa.ca to get them while they last.

Do you receive my monthly e-newsletter?

Sign up to receive it directly to your inbox by sending me an email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca



Winter Fun—Outdoor Skating Rinks abundant in River Ward

River Ward is home to **16 outdoor rinks**. They vary from larger boarded rinks to smaller puddle rinks, but all are managed by volunteers from right in your community.

If you are interested in being a rink volunteer this season, please call my office so we can connect you with your local team. For maps and locations, visit Ottawa.ca.

In alphabetical order, here are the River Ward rink locations:

- Alexander Park, 960 Silver St., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Arnott Park, 691 Hartman Cr., double surface
- Bellevue Manor Park, 1520 Caldwell Ave., double surface
- Carleton Heights Park, 1665 Apeldoorn Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Celebration Park, 200 Central Park Drive, double surface
- Frank J. Licari Park, 1990 Cochrane St., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Geoff Wightman Park, 89 Leopolds Dr., double surface
- Ledbury Park, 1250 Ledbury Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Lexington Park, 1404 Lexington St., puddle rink
- McCarthy Park, 3320 Paul Anka Dr., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Meadowvale Terrace Park, 1205 Trenton Ave., double surface
- Owl Park, 185 Owl Drive, boarded rink with puddle rink
- Paget Park, 801 Springland Dr. (at Hobson), puddle rink
- Pauline Vanier Park, 1015 Harkness Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink
- Raven Park, 1500 Larose Ave., double surface
- Rideauview Park, 960 Eiffel Ave., boarded rink with puddle rink



COVIDWise Winter Activities



Outdoor activities are good for both physical and mental health and usually **carry a lower risk of COVID transmission** than indoor activities. Lower the risk of COVID-19 with some of the alternatives below.

The safest option is to choose activities that can be done with just your household contacts or, if you live alone, with one or two of your chosen social support persons. If you get together with others, choose individual sports that can be done with other people, but still allows for 2 metres (6 feet) of spacing.

Outdoor play and leisure

- Build a snowman.
- Build a snow fort.
- Go for a walk to look at holiday lights.



Ice skating

- Sit on a bench outside to put your skates on instead of inside a changing hut.
- Choose open spaces where it is easier to maintain a 2 metre (6 feet) distance from other people.



Downhill Skiing

- Share chairlifts or T-bars only with people in your household or if you live alone with one or two of your chosen social support persons.
- Stay outdoors and on the slopes to avoid the ski resort lodge and crowded places.
- Remember to wear a mask and practice physical distancing when indoors with others.



Tobogganing

- Stay with your household members or, if you live alone, with one or two of your chosen social support persons.
- Keep at least a 2 metre (6 feet) distance from everyone else.
- Avoid crowded hills – come back at a different time.



Cross Country Skiing, Hiking or Snowshoeing

- Find a multi-use winter trail to enjoy with family and close friends but keep a 2 metre (6 feet) distance from people outside of your household or chosen social support persons.
- Carpool only with people in your own household and keep a 2 metre (6 feet) distance with others before and after doing your sport together, such as in the parking lot.
- Avoid any shared snacks or drinks.



Please consider your own risk factors before participating in any outdoor group activity. For an older person or someone with chronic medical problems the best decision may be to not participate in group activities at all, and instead focus on individual activities, like walking. Ottawa Public Health recommends the **Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website** to all persons wishing to better understand their personal risks for COVID-19 infection.

[OttawaPublicHealth.ca/SocialWISE](https://ottawapublichealth.ca/SocialWISE)

28/10/2020