

**IMPORTANT UPDATE:
RECYCLING
PICK-UP CHANGES**



Beginning January 2026, the city will no longer be responsible for collecting your recycling from blue bins.

This service will now be managed by Miller Waste, under a contract with Circular Materials. This is a provincial program making producers responsible for the cost of recycling their products at the end of their life.

What stays the same: no changes to your current blue bin container or collection schedule.

What's new: missed collections or recycling issues will no longer be handled by the city.

For assistance, please contact Miller Waste directly at **1-855-752-3762** between the hours of 7am to 5pm Monday to Friday or you can email area10@millerwaste.ca

Expanded Blue box materials will include plastic film, chip and candy wrappers, coffee cups and lids.

A reminder that shredded paper should be placed in a clear bag and set out with your green bin items for collection.



Household waste – Please avoid placing household garbage in public trash bins. We are seeing an increase of dumping which is not permitted, and may lead to these bins being removed if the issue continues. Thank you for helping keep our shared spaces clean.

Canada Post Mailboxes –

Canada Post is responsible for snow clearing around all of the community mail boxes and immediate surrounding area.

Please report any snow or ice issues directly to Canada Post at **1.800.267.1177**



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Fall/Winter 2025/2026

Ward 4 NEWS



www.karenrea.ca

Update from your Markham Council Representative Karen Rea

Dear Residents,

With the winter season upon us, I am pleased to share a few updates on key projects and seasonal information that may be of interest. This edition of my fall newsletter includes helpful winter maintenance reminders, ideas for enjoying the season and important news about changes to blue bin recycling starting in January 2026.

To stay informed about major city initiatives, visit **YourVoiceMarkham**. By registering, you can share

your feedback and follow the progress on projects that matter to you.

My goal is always to keep residents updated on what's happening in our community. In addition to these bi-annual newsletters, I also offer a monthly e-newsletter which you can sign up for at www.karenrea.ca

Wishing you a warm and joyful holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Karen Rea

Karen Rea | Ward 4 Councillor

"Have your say"... participate in on-line surveys that work for you – www.karenrea.ca

WINTER ACTIVITIES

Ice Skating – the Markham Civic Centre offers a large outdoor refrigerated rink – perfect for a classic winter skate. As weather permits, additional community rinks may be created across the city for residential use. Please remember that skating on stormwater ponds, Toogood Pond or Milne Dam is prohibited for safety reasons.

Markham Museum – with 25 acres of historic buildings, the museum grounds offer a scenic setting for winter exploration, including snowshoeing when conditions allow.

Milne Dam Conservation Park – the trails remain open throughout the winter and provide beautiful opportunities for snowy nature walks and seasonal photography.

In this issue:

- No Parking During Snow Removal
- Windrow Removal Program
- Winter Interactive Map for Plows
- 50 Years of Heritage Markham
- Soft Landscaping Information
- YRP Home Safety Tips
- Development Updates
- Honda Indy Moving to Markham
- Recycling Pick-up Changes
- Household Waste in Public Trash Bins
- Canada Post Mailboxes
- Evergreen Hospice Project
- Winter Activities

The FIRST hospice residence of our community and the first ever to reside inside a National Park



Evergreen Hospice Residence is Underway, We Need Your Help!

Evergreen has supported individuals facing life-threatening illness in Markham, Stouffville, and Thornhill for over 35 years. They will open the first hospice residence in our community, including three private rooms.

The goal is to raise \$5 million to build, furnish and open in 2026. Hospice care is provided at no cost to the

patient or family. Government only funds a portion, which is why community support is essential.

Every contribution helps create a place of comfort and dignity for those nearing end of life.

For more information, contact: info@evgcares.org or 416-499-2185 ext.101

Karen Rea, Ward 4 Councillor, 101 Town Centre Blvd, Markham ON L3R 9W3
krea@markham.ca or 905.479.7751





NO PARKING ON CITY STREETS DURING SNOW REMOVAL

Parking on all streets is not permitted

during a snowstorm or while snow-clearing operations are underway, even in areas where parking is normally allowed. Please note that snow clearing may continue up to 24 hours after the snow has fallen. Your co-operation helps our crew clear the roads safely and efficiently.

Parking on the street during a snowstorm may block access for emergency services. You could receive a \$150.00 ticket for interfering with snow removal.

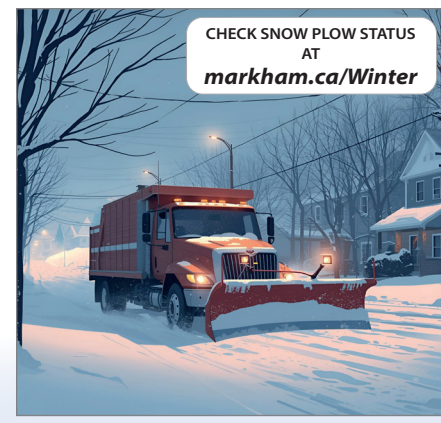
WINDROW REMOVAL PROGRAM

If all residents in your household are 60+ years old, or younger than 12 years, you may be eligible for the Snow Windrow Removal Assistance Program. The city will clear one car width of your driveway, following 7.5 cm of snow fall. The program is for the windrow at the bottom of the driveway. Windrows remaining from sidewalk clearing are not included.

For more information, please email customerservice@markham.ca or call **905.477.5530**

Note: During heavy snowfall, please keep in mind that windrow clearing may not be completed in time for scheduled appointments. We appreciate your patience as our staff and contractors work to clear our roads and sidewalks across the community.

WINTER STORM OPERATIONS



During snowstorms, Markham's winter maintenance interactive map shows the progress of road and sidewalk plows. For full snow clearing details, visit markham.ca/winter

CELEBRATING – 50 YEARS –

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Heritage Markham Committee.

Since 1975 the city has achieved many milestones, including designating our first heritage property in 1978, protecting four heritage districts, creating Markham Heritage Estates and revitalizing our historic main streets. Between 1975 and today over 150 individuals have served on the Heritage Committee.

Markham was the first recipient of the Prince of Wales Prize from the Heritage Canada Foundation. The mayor was presented with the first Lieutenant Governor's Heritage Award for community leadership and a proven track record in heritage conservation. In 2004, Heritage Markham won the Napier Simpson Junior award and in 2025 Regan Hutcheson received the Thomas Symons Award for commitment to Conservation (Ontario Heritage Trust). Congratulations to all on this incredible milestone!



ARE YOU KEEPING ENOUGH SOFT LANDSCAPING?

Council adopted the new Comprehensive Zoning By-law (CZB) on January 31, 2024. Since then, I've heard from several residents who, often without realizing it, have paved too much of their rear yard or widened their driveway beyond what is now permitted. As a result, some are being asked to remove a portion of the paving.

The new CZB includes updated rules to help limit the amount of hardscaping allowed in the front, rear and side yards. In the rear yard, hard landscaping can cover up to 50% of the minimum required rear yard setback. For example, if your property requires a 7.5 m rear yard setback, hard landscaping can project a maximum of 3.75 m into that area. Before starting any landscaping projects, it's a good idea to double-check the setback requirements for your specific property.

Why does this matter? Keeping enough soft landscaping, such as grass, gardens and flower beds comes with many benefits. It supports our environment, improves the look and feel of our neighbourhoods, and helps manage stormwater by absorbing rain and reducing runoff. This is an important way we can all help protect our community from flooding.

YORK REGIONAL POLICE – HOME SAFETY TIPS

- Put indoor and outdoor lights on timers
- Ensure entrances to your home are not obscured by landscaping or objects
- Close, lock and secure doors, windows and garages
- Secure your sliding door by putting a piece of wood in the door track
- Park your vehicle in a locked garage if possible
- Store valuables in safe and unexpected places – not bedrooms or anywhere visible through a door or window
- Have trusted neighbours watch and maintain your home while you are away
- Register on the York Regional Police Security Camera Registry



For more information visit yrp.ca/crime prevention

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

5000 Highway #7 – Markville Mall

City Council has approved changes to the Official Plan to allow a new four-phase, mixed-use development at 5000 Highway 7. This project will be developed in stages over many years.

The transportation workshop for the Markville Secondary Plan has been deferred to Q1 in 2026 to allow staff time to further advance technical work and respond to proposed changes in Bill 60.

The target date for Council adoption of the Markville Secondary plan is Q2 2026.

5305-5307 Hwy #7

The landowner appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal and a settlement was agreed upon which includes:

- Elimination of two units – 28 stacked townhouse units instead of the proposed 30 units.
- Moving the waste storage bins to the underground parking lot.
- Removal of the easterly pedestrian walkway and replaced with landscaping.

5871 Hwy #7

An application was submitted to re-designate this property from mixed-use mid-rise to residential high-rise, including proposing a 13-story building.

Council approved the same overall gross floor area (GFA) but reduced the height to 10 stories to better align with the surrounding established neighbourhood. The landowner appealed Council's decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

A Case Management Conference is being held on December 10th, 2025.

Hwy #7 and 9th Line Development

An application for an Official Plan Amendment and a Zoning By-law Amendment has been submitted for 8651 Ninth Line. The applicant is proposing to build 3,771 high-rise apartment units, 13,944 sq ft of commercial space, a park, and a total of 3,933 parking spaces. Building heights range from 6 to 33 stories. More information can be obtained on the city website.

➤ **Honda Indy** – the Ontario Honda Dealers Indy is moving to Markham. The event will take place **August 14th - 16th, 2026, in Markham Centre** – between Kennedy Road, Enterprise Boulevard, Unionville GO Tracks and north of Hwy 407.