

Sa Lee Ward 8 Councillor



Spring 2022

Dear Ward 8 Residents,

With restrictions lifting and the warm weather upon us, we are gradually returning to our new normal.

The past few months have been busy and fulfilling as we prepared for our reopening. One of the most sought after items from residents was none other than the COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Kits. I know many residents searched high and low for a kit, lining up for hours only to return empty-handed. I was eventually able to acquire a shipment, and immediately distributed some directly to residents at community housing buildings in Ward 8, as well as through a giveaway event this past March.

I am always in awe of the generosity and kindness within our community. I am happy to report that my Fight Hunger Food Drive back in December not only raised \$100,000 for 105 Gibson Food Bank, Markham Food Bank and The Food Bank of York Region, but also over 9,000lbs of food. So many residents and organizations continued donating even after the event ended. I hope this spirit of giving continues on throughout the year.

While helping residents through the pandemic is important, community safety is one of the priorities that I am always working on. Since the beginning of my term, I had organized a Neighbourhood Watch Group and worked closely with residents to help keep our community safe. This group enables residents to communicate and report suspicious behaviours in the neighbourhood more efficiently. When a series of our Ward 8 restaurants were broken into early this year, I set up virtual meeting on behalf of the Chinese Cuisine & Hospitality Association of Canada, with York Regional Police and Mayor Frank Scarpitti to address the issues. The meeting gave local business owners an opportunity to express their concerns and discuss them directly with the City and law enforcement. I believe communication is always the key to community safety. I am glad I had this opportunity to connect all parties to work together and build a safer community.

The City of Markham continues to take a cautious approach when it comes to fully reopening public facilities. After two years in a pandemic, everyone will handle the changes in different ways and at a different pace. I hope we all respect each other's choices, and I look forward to seeing you all in-person at events again.

Yours Sincerely,

Councillor Isa Lee
Ward 8,
City of Markham

Looking for more frequent updates? Let me know!



Distributed over 350 COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Kits to Ward 8 residents in my giveaway event in Denison Centre in March



Dropped off Rapid Antigen Test Kits door-to-door to residents at the Tony Wong Place and Hagerman Corners



Raised \$50,000 for 105 Gibson Centre Food Bank, and presented the cheque with Mayor Frank Scarpitti for the 2021 Fight Hunger Food Drive



Hosted a meeting on behalf of the Chinese Cuisine & Hospitality Association of Canada with York Regional Police, Mayor Frank Scarpitti and business owners to discuss the rash of restaurant break-ins within Ward 8

Send an email to ilee@markham.ca to subscribe to our digital newsletter

MARKHAM ANNOUNCES NEW CONTRACT WITH MILLER WASTE SYSTEMS AND EXPANDED FLEET



New City of Markham's Waste and Recycling Vehicles with Miller Waste Systems

The City of Markham continues its commitment to environmental stewardship and cutting-edge waste management practices. After completing a comprehensive public procurement process in 2020, Markham Council awarded the new, eight-year

collection contract to Miller Waste Systems. The new collection contract began on March 1, 2022, featuring a new fleet of 50 collection trucks.

The new contract includes many enhancements that benefit Markham residents. In anticipation of Ontario's new provincial Blue Box legislation, Markham's blue box recyclables will now be collected separately from green bin organics and clear bag garbage, by two separate trucks. All items Recyclables and organics will still be collected on the same day and there is no change to collection schedules. Green bin organics and clear bag garbage will be co-collected in a "rear load" truck that has two compartments keeping material separated.



Celebrating Chinese New Year with Federation of Chinese Canadians in Markham at Pacific Mall



Facilitated a Mobile Vaccination Clinic with Carefirst Seniors & Community Services Association at Mon Sheong Court to help seniors receive COVID-19 boosters safely.

HOW TO DISPOSE OF RAPID ANTIGEN TESTS?

Put rapid antigen tests that have been used at home, including swab samples, in the garbage. To protect others including your waste collector, bag and tie securely before placing in your household garbage.



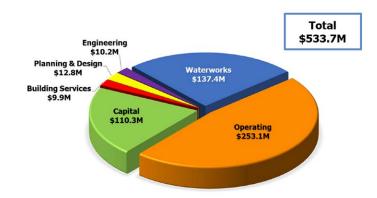
WATER USE BY-LAW

Our City's water supply is regulated (Water Use By-law 2019-53) by restricting the watering of lawns between June 1st and September 30th of each year. No watering is permitted during the hottest hours of the day, when the sun is most likely to speed up its evaporation. Homeowners may choose to water their lawns between 6:00 AM and 9:00 AM or between 6:00 PM and 9:00 PM, but not both.

- Homeowners and tenants of properties with an even-numbered street address can water their lawns on even-numbered days during this time.
- Homeowners and tenants of properties with an odd-numbered street address can water their lawns on odd-number days during this time.

Learn more at markham.ca.

CITY OF MARKHAM 2022 BUDGET



Markham Council approved the City's 2022 Budget of \$533.7M including a 1.95 per cent property tax rate increase.

This budget supports the continued delivery of critical City services while making key capital investments in facilities, infrastructure and amenities that support Markham's strategic goals. The budget also supports a prudent and measured approach to re-opening and recovery.

The 1.95 per cent property tax rate increase is below the rate of inflation and translates to an increase of approximately \$25 in property taxes for the average residential household in Markham.

The tax rate increase includes 1.45 per cent for day-to-day operating costs and continues a 0.5 per cent infrastructure investment to ensure there are sufficient funds in City life cycle reserves to repair and replace assets for the next 25 years.

For more detailed information on these and other investments, visit markham.ca/budget

2022 Capital Budget Highlights - \$110.3M



SLOW DOWN! KEEP OUR ROADS SAFE



Speed advisory display boards help educate and modify driver behaviour by reducing vehicle speeds in our community. Data collected from the display boards over the past several years has shown that, while deployed, vehicle speeds can be reduced by up to 20%.

Please see the latest locations of the speed advisory display boards in Ward 8 for April – June 2022:

- Lee Avenue between Noble Street and Kennedy Road (facing westbound traffic)
- Brimley Road between Denison Street and Steeles Avenue (facing northbound traffic)
- Eden Avenue between Denison Street and Highglen Avenue (facing southbound traffic)

For more information on the program, please refer to the City's Traffic Engineering website at markham.ca/traffic, and click on "Speed Management".

NOISE BY-LAW

With warmer weather approaching, a complaint we often receive is about noise. Please be considerate of your neighbours and keep the following in mind:

- Playing loud music outdoors is not allowed from 5:00 PM until 7:00 AM the following day (9:00 AM on Sunday). Shouting, whistling, and singing is not allowed after 11:00 PM.
- All other loud noises, such as honking horns and electronic sounds, are not permitted after 7:00 PM or on Sundays or statutory holidays (provincial or federal).
- The City has extended the permitted times allowed for amplified music and sound to 11:00 PM on both Fridays and Saturdays. As a result, both residential and special events that take place on Fridays and Saturdays and end prior to 11:00 PM will no longer require an exemption.

Learn more about the Noise By-law by clicking on the 'City Hall' tab, and then click on 'By-laws' at markham.ca

HOME OCCUPATIONS BY-LAW

In the past two years, we received a fair number of complaints regarding home-based businesses. Bear in mind that certain types of businesses can operate out of a home, but the City must also consider how such a business will affect neighbours.

Employees and Other Visitors

In addition to yourself, only one employee can be working out of your home; you must provide a parking space on your driveway that is always available for this person's use. Teaching activities are limited to four students at a time. Mail-order sales are allowed, but other sales activities are limited only to items produced within your home; receipt or delivery of goods must involve nothing larger than trucks normally used for residential deliveries.

Doctors, dentists and drugless health practitioners may operate their business in the home where they live, but it must be located on a corner lot with frontage on a provincial highway or major road.

Businesses that cannot operate as a home-based enterprise include:

- Dating bureau/escort service
- Public bath/whirlpool
- Vehicle towing
- Contractor's yard
- Taxi service
- · Kennels and animal hospitals
- Adult entertainment parlour
- Retail store
- · Take-out, fast food or other restaurant
- Sales/service of motorized vehicles, machinery or equipment, automotive and audio products and scrap yards.

If the business creates, or is likely to create, a nuisance or become offensive to neighbours, it will be prohibited.

For more information, please call the By-law Enforcement and Licensing Department at 905-479-7782 or email customerservice@markham.ca.

ROAD WATCH ONLINE REPORTING



Speeding and other aggressive behaviours on the road increases during the warmer months. If you see someone driving dangerously in York Region, you can report it online at yrp.ca/en/online-reporting/Road-Watch.asp.

You will need to use your real name. But be rest assured that personal information will be kept confidential and will never be shared with the aggressive driver you reported.

What Happens After I Submit a Report?

- When a vehicle is reported for the first time: York Regional Police send the registered owner of the vehicle a letter. The letter tells the person about the date, location and details of the incident. It encourages them to drive more safely.
- When a vehicle is reported for the second time: police send a second letter. A police officer will also place a phone call to the vehicle owner to discuss the incident.
- When a vehicle is reported for the third time: a police officer will visit the vehicle owner in-person. The officer will then decide if additional measures need to be taken to avoid future offenses.



YORK REGION'S NEWCOMER SERVICES



Moving to a new country or region can be an exciting but stressful process. York Region has developed a Newcomer Guide (English/French) that provides useful information to help you and your family settle in York Region quickly and easily. In it, you will learn more about:

- · Arriving Finding programs and resources to help you settle
- Moving Around Using public transportation
- · Living Finding a place to stay and to live
- Staying Healthy Accessing health care
- Learning Registering your child in school or finding language classes
- Working Finding a job and working in York Region
- Staying Safe Getting to know York Region's emergency services
- Having Fun Enjoying the many things to see and do in York Region
- Municipal Government Learning more about York Region's local government

Visit york.ca/newcomerservices to learn more.



PITCH YOUR BIZ MARKHAM - APPLY NOW!

Got an amazing business idea? As an individual or up to a group of 3, submit a slide deck showcasing a potential business and get the chance to win up to \$500! Submit a video pitch and get a chance to win an additional \$200!



The objective of Pitch Your Biz Markham is to create opportunities for aspiring young entrepreneurs to experience the hard work required to research, plan and launch a business, and thus develop their entrepreneurial skills. The Competition is open to all High School, College or University students who reside in Markham, attend a school in Markham or attend Seneca College.

Submit your entry by emailing it to msbc@markham.ca

Be sure to include your full name, grade/year, school and subject line "Pitch Your Biz Markham 2022 Submission".

Submission Deadline: June 30, 2022 Learn more https://bit.ly/3JoNMLw

JOIN TEAM MARKHAM AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The City of Markham is currently hiring for a variety of Summer jobs! We are a collaborative team that values diversity, creativity and uniqueness. View jobs and apply now: markham.ca/careers



Attending the recent Markham Centre Secondary Plan update meeting in March



Celebrating Holi Festival with Arya Samaj Markham



As an extension of my Fight Hunger Food Drive, the Armadale Older Adults Club donated near \$2,000 and 200lbs of food to the Markham Food Bank



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Contact Centre: If you have any issue regarding City of Markham's services, programs, or inquiries (e.g. by-laws, license, garbage, recycling, trees, roads) please contact the City's Contact Centre at (905) 477-5530 or customerservice@markham.ca.

