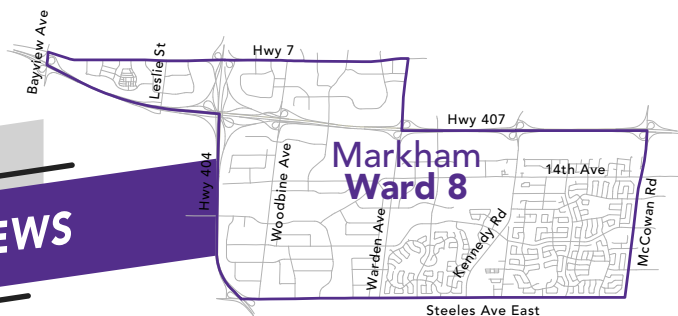




YOUR WARD



NEWS



Isa Lee

Ward 8 Councillor



Summer 2021



This is our shot! I got my first dose. I encourage everyone who has not yet received their vaccine to book their appointment at www.york.ca

Dear Residents,

I hope you are all enjoying this beautiful weather while staying safe and taking the necessary precautions.

With over half of all Canadians vaccinated with the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine - myself included - many are now beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel. I encourage all eligible residents who have not yet received their vaccine to book your vaccine appointment at www.york.ca.

As many of you know, one of the biggest concerns so far this year is the delivery of vaccines - especially in parts of Ward 8 where it is recognized as one of the hotspots in York Region.

I have heard from many seniors who were having difficulties leaving their homes and traveling to vaccine clinics. With the collaborative efforts among York Region Public Health, Markham Stouffville Hospital, as well as 22 local service providers, we were able to facilitate mobile vaccine clinics for some of these residents earlier on to ensure our most vulnerable population is protected.

While our younger generation have been staying home and partaking in virtual learning for the better part of the year, our youth has continued to surprise me with their eagerness of civic engagement and innovativeness in improving our communities. One of the projects that was brought to my attention was to establish a Markham Food Forest. While there was no public area available in Ward 8 for the project, I was able to bring forth this idea to staff for consideration. Staff are now assisting the group of youth in securing funding to turn this project into reality.

I also had the privilege of judging Markham Mayor's Youth Council's YOUth Pitch It! event, where I heard many spectacular ideas brought forth from our youth. I look forward to facilitating these projects in any way that I can. Our youth are our future, and I am so pleased to see our younger generation looking for ways to better our communities.

With the warmer weather now upon us, I included some information in this newsletter on how to properly maintain your properties and public spaces so that we can keep our neighbourhoods safe and beautiful for everyone to enjoy, as well as some tips for those making use of our trails and green space.

Looking forward to seeing you all again in person very soon.

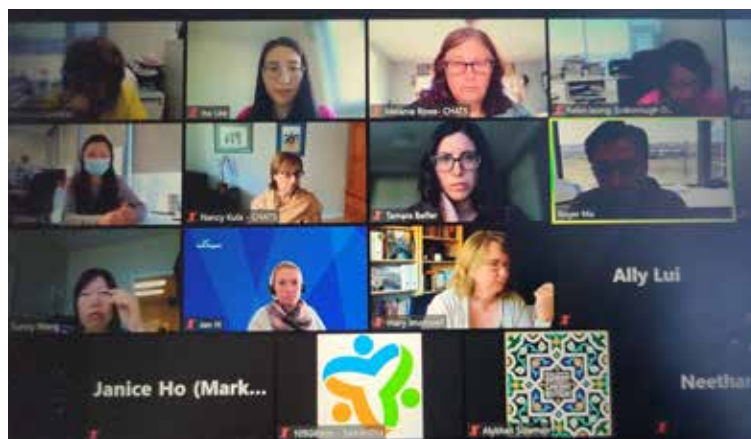
Yours Sincerely,

Isa Lee

Councillor Isa Lee

Ward 8, City of Markham

* This newsletter is intended for the residents of Ward 8. Residents in adjacent wards may receive this newsletter as a result of Canada Post's distribution routes that do not align with Markham ward boundaries."



Attended one of the Priority Communities Program Roundtable monthly meetings led by CareFirst Seniors & Community Services Association

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:

July - September 2021
Beckenridge Dr (West of Ravenhill)
Worthing Ave (Between Mayflower and Ingram)
Lee Avenue (Between Kennedy and Noble)

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

WALKING & CYCLING INITIATIVES



With over 400km of on- and off- road bicycle routes and trails for commuting and recreational use, the City of Markham is a great place to explore by bicycle, on foot and other forms of active transportation! The City continues to deliver projects and programs to improve safe walking and cycling for people of all ages and abilities. A friendly reminder for everyone to:

- Be polite! Markham trails are for everyone to enjoy. Cyclists, yield to walkers, pass on the left and use your bell! Walkers, stay to the right and be alert.
- Walk on sidewalks whenever possible. If you need to walk on the street, walk facing traffic and as close to the road-side as you can.
- If you are planning a night-time walk or bike ride, reflective clothing, bike lights or a flashlight can help keep you safe.

For more useful info, safety tips, and to learn about some of the City's walking and cycling initiatives, please visit www.markham.ca/walkingandcycling

ANIMAL CARE SERVICE IN THE CITY OF MARKHAM

As of April 1st, 2021 the City of Markham's Animal Care Service delivery has changed. The City will be collaborating with the Ontario SPCA for the delivery of its Animal Care Services.

The City will be providing regular animal care patrols and responding to on the road animal related issues as reported by our residents while the Ontario SPCA will continue to provide adoptions and sheltering services for Markham Animals.

To report any animal related concern (domestic or wildlife) please call 905 415 7531 or email customerservice@markham.ca.

STEELES GRADE SEPARATION UPDATE

The temporary detour road north of Steeles Avenue East between Redlea Avenue and Old Kennedy Road/Silver Star Boulevard was decommissioned beginning of May 2021 .

Once completed, the grade separation will greatly increase safety for GO

Train passengers, pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles between a high-traffic avenue and rail line that is seeing increasing all-day, two-way GO Train service within York Region and Toronto, over the next several years.

Project substantial completion is anticipated for mid-2022



MARKHAM IS CELEBRATING ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY!

The 50th celebration, which will continue through 2021 will include street banners co-designed with Unionville High School students that feature notable Markham residents and landmarks. Innovation Month, celebrated each year during the month of June, will present highlights from Markham's tech industry leaders and longstanding Markham businesses. Residents will be invited to engage in a number of activities that will commemorate this anniversary, spotlighting themes and transformational moments in the community's journey from a town into a modern city, and social media showcasing Markham's achievements, history, diversity and community. Details and further celebrations can be found at markham.ca/Markham50. Join in by using #Markham50 on social media!



Our newly formed Deib Cres (left) and Kenborough Ct (right) Neighbourhood Watch Groups working together to keep the neighbourhoods safe. Please contact my office if you are interested in joining.

MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY LAUNCHES MPL ECARD AND FINE FREE PROGRAM

Markham Public Library

is also turning 50 this

year! To celebrate

this milestone, MPL is

removing barriers to

access and ensuring that children and teens will no longer be charged overdue fines for borrowed library materials that are returned late. To qualify, library users will need to update their library card profile by contacting the Library.

Celebrations continue with the launch of MPL's new eCard.

Residents who are reluctant to leave their homes during COVID-19 or who wish to only use the Library's digital materials will no longer be required to visit a library branch to get a library card. Instead, they can apply for their eCard from the safety and comfort of their own home by visiting markhampubliclibrary.ca/eCard.



MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

MARKHAM OFFERS SAFE RECREATION, CULTURE & LIBRARY PROGRAMS FOR SUMMER

Are you looking for some safe summertime fun? The City of Markham is offering a variety of virtual and outdoor programs this season. All programs are designed to keep you active and engaged, while staying safe as we continue to do our part to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Try something new or explore an old passion this season.

Feature programming for the summer includes:

- Morgan Park Outdoor Pool: lane swim, aquafit, lessons, pool rentals, recreational swim and aquatic leadership programs (weather permitting)
- Virtual art and theatre camps
- Virtual library programs and camps
- Pop-Up Park Program for kids
- Outdoor and virtual recreation programs
- Outdoor and virtual fitness classes

Registration for virtual recreation and library programs is now open. Register for outdoor programs, Pop-Up in the Park Program for kids and virtual culture camps at markham.ca/SummerPrograms.

The City of Markham's indoor recreation and culture facilities will remain closed for the summer months. This includes municipal arenas, indoor pools, gymnasiums, fitness centres, indoor sports fields, the Markham Museum, the Flato Markham Theatre and the Varley Art Gallery.



THE PRIVATE PLUMBING PROTECTION REBATE PROGRAM HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO THE END OF APRIL 2022

Markham has invested millions of dollars to improve City sewer systems. To further protect properties from basement flooding, City Council has endorsed the Private Plumbing Protection Rebate Program. The program offers financial support for property owners who are making certain improvements on their private plumbing system.



Retroactive Rebate– Property owners who completed installations between May 1, 2017 and May 1, 2018 are eligible for a retroactive rebate subject to City inspections.

New Installation Rebate – Property owners who implemented measures between May 1, 2018 and June 15, 2020 are subject to obtaining building permits and inspection from the City; Property owners who implemented measures between June 15, 2020 and April 30, 2022 are subject to obtaining necessary pre-approval, building permits and inspections from the City. The deadline to obtain the building permit is April 30, 2022. The deadline for submitting the rebate application is July 31, 2022.

Please visit the City of Markham's website for more information on eligibility and how to apply.

GOT UNWANTED TEXTILES? DROP THEM OFF AT THE CITY'S TEXTILE BINS!

The City of Markham's award-winning textile recycling program has diverted over 20 million pounds (907,000 kg) of textiles since 2016. The textile program has been recognized with awards from both the Institute of Public Administration of Canada and the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators.

Drop off all your unwanted textiles at any of Markham's 160 city-operated bins.

If the bins are full, please consider driving to the next nearest textile donation bin, or holding onto your items until the bins have been serviced so that we can keep our neighbourhoods safe and beautiful!

Markham's unique textile recycling program accepts all textiles. Items can be worn, torn, or stained. Even single socks and shoes are welcome! Please visit the City's website for a full list of textiles that you can donate.



If the textile donation bins are full, please consider visiting the next nearest location to prevent any buildup of items around the bins.

WHAT IS THE CITY DOING REGARDING LDD (EUROPEAN GYPSY MOTHS) INFESTATIONS?

We have been receiving a growing number of calls from residents regarding European Gypsy Moth – *Lymantria dispar dispar* (LDD) infestations in Markham. This issue was discussed at length at the General Committee Meeting on June 14. As the LDD infestation is a Province-wide issue, the City of Markham and the other 8 municipalities inclusive of York Region are collectively coordinating their programs as we share common boundaries. LDD outbreaks typically occur every seven to 10 years, and tend to last anywhere between one to four years before naturally collapsing.

It is important to note that the City removed egg masses reachable from the ground on almost 6,000 trees in spring 2021 and will continue to monitor and remove egg masses the fall of 2021. We were advised that the net result of severe LDD infestations is defoliation (loss of leaves) but does not mean the loss of the tree. In many cases the tree will grow another set of leaves in the same year. We were also advised that the BTK spray, which is the primary means of control is “non-selective” – this means that ALL caterpillars are at risk, and the spray only works within a certain window of their lifecycle.

To ensure the City is doing everything we can to minimize the infestation, staff was asked to provide viable options for this current season, and into next year.

In the meantime, there are also things that residents could do:

Control Method: Burlap Bands - trap caterpillars by wrapping burlap around the tree's trunk. This makes it easier to collect them.

Hand Pick Caterpillars remove caterpillars and place in a bucket of soapy water for a day or two. *** Wear Gloves***

Please visit markham.ca/trees for further information regarding LDDs and how to install burlap banding on your tree.



Delivering supplies donated by local businesses and organizations to St Mary of Leuca Daycare Centre on Risebrough Circuit



Joined a meeting on June 10 to learn more about the latest updates for the Markham Centre Secondary Plan

NEW PARK CONSTRUCTION - LEITCHCROFT TOWNHOUSE PARK

Construction for the Leitchcroft Townhouse Park has officially begun!

The park is approximately 1 acre (0.4 ha), located between South Park Road and Saddlecreek Drive, south of Active Road. It will include a playground, shade structure, benches and associated landscaping.

The construction of this park is anticipated to be complete by late fall 2021.

I hope residents in the area will enjoy this park once it is completed!



SEDIMENT REMOVAL AT STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POND

The City of Markham will be removing sediment and performing maintenance at the stormwater management pond, located southeast of Highway 7 and Commerce Valley Drive East. The project is part of the City's



environmental asset life cycle program to maintain the functionality of existing stormwater infrastructure.

The construction is scheduled to begin in June 2021 and is expected to be completed by the end of September 2021, weather permitting. During the construction, roadways will be open at the above noted location, however access to the pond pathways will be closed off.



  **CouncillorIsaLee**  **IsaSeWan**

Contact Centre: If you have an 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.

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