KEEP MARKHAM BEAUTIFUL

As a homeowner or a tenant, the state of your property not only affects the value of your property but affects the neighbourhood and other residents. Let's all do our part to ensure that our streets have a visually attractive curb appeal.

Highlights of our Keep Markham Beautiful By-law include: Every owner shall maintain their property clear of all waste material. Inoperable vehicles cannot be stored on a property. Grass must be trimmed to grow no higher than 6 inches, including the boulevard in front of your home and the boulevard at the side of your home if you live on a corner. All hedges, bushes and shrubs shall be maintained from becoming overgrown and unsightly. Fences are to be maintained in a state of good repair.

BACKYARD TREE PLANTING

Add more green to your property. Endorsed by Markham's Trees for Tomorrow initiative, the backyard tree planting program provides trees to Markham residents at an additional discounted price through the full service or do-it-yourself program. For more information, please visit ***yourleaf.org***

TREE PRESERVATION

Please remember that the Tree Preservation By-law regulates the destruction or injury of trees over 20cm in diameter on private property and any size trees on city property. A permit must be obtained prior to the removal of a tree regardless of condition.

Household waste *– This was picked up on a daily walk from the boulevards outside residential homes. Our Keep Markham Beautiful bylaw has been updated to say that the owner of an abutting boulevard shall be presumed to have dumped, deposited, or permitted to be dumped materials and will be responsible for the removal of the waste. Please pick up any litter on your boulevard and curb and dispose of it properly.*

Did you know...

that if you are planning to fish in Ontario you need a fishing license? Be sure to check the Provincial fishing license requirements at: ***https://www.ontario.ca/page/fishing-licence-canadian-residents***

While fishing at storm management ponds in the City of Markham is not prohibited, it is not recommended to eat fish from these ponds. Some locations within Markham have been marked as not appropriate for fishing. This is to protect other members of the public from hazards such as the casting of fishing line and hooks. Please be respectful of your fishing location.

If you are catching fish for sport, please return the fish unharmed back into the pond. Leaving fish to die on the ground is cruel and does not follow Provincial fishing regulations related to the 'catch and release' of recreational fishing.

Releasing aquarium or pet fish into ponds or other watercourses is not permitted and is considered an offence under the Fisheries Act and possibly the Invasive Species Act.

Please be respectful of others and the environment. Be sure to educate yourself on the Ontario fishing regulations and licensing requirements before engaging in this recreational activity.

CONSTRUCTION NOISE

The operation of any equipment connected with construction is only allowed between Monday and Friday 7am to 7pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm. Construction noise is prohibited Sundays & all Statutory Holidays. This includes home renovations, new homes, landscaping projects and the replacement of a roof.

PARKING STANDARDS

Please think of accessibility before blocking a sidewalk. The sidewalk is for pedestrians not vehicles. Any obstruction or hangover of a sidewalk is prohibited and subject to enforcement. Having your vehicle parked horizontally between the sidewalk and road must be parked completely in the driveway area and not hang over or be parked on the grass. Parking on what is your front yard, regardless of grass or pavers, is also prohibited.

Spring/Summer 2024

Ward 4 NEWS

www.karenrea.ca ***Update from your Markham Council Representative Karen Rea***

Dear Residents,

As the warmth of the summer approaches, I wanted to take a moment to extend a warm welcome to all residents that may have recently moved to the area.

We have lots of exciting activities in the ward and the city for you to take advantage of and enjoy in the upcoming months. Check out our trail system which runs through Milne, attend a festival or check out one of our fabulous restaurants.

I send out monthly updates about development applications, policy changes and general items of interest via email. If you would like to subscribe to my monthly e-newsletter please visit ***www.karenrea.ca***

We are always here to help whenever possible, so don't hesitate to reach out if you have any concerns, ideas to share or if you need assistance. Your feedback and input is important to us.

Regards,

Karen Rea | Ward 4 Councillor

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

EVENTS IN MARKHAM

Farmer's Market

- Now open on Main St N Markham every Saturday from May 11th to October 12th, from 9 am to 1 pm
Enjoy amazing local goods and live entertainment.

Markham Village Music Festival 2024, Main St N Markham

- Friday evening, June 14th
and Saturday, June 15th all day and evening,
- Musicians, performers, street vendors, Farmers Market, Kidz Zone, Barkham 2024 and more! Free admission

Music on Main

- Main Street Markham every Friday night all summer long starting June 21st, 6 pm to 9 pm

In this issue:

- *Be Safe When Walking*
- *Scams*
- *Playground Improvements*
- *Development*
- *Alectra*
- *Building Permits*
- *Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw (CZB)*
- *Keep Markham Beautiful*
- *Tree Planting & Tree Preservation*
- *Fishing in Ontario*
- *Construction Noise*
- *Parking Standards*

Karen Rea, Ward 4 Councillor, 101 Town Centre Blvd, Markham ON L3R 9W3

krea@markham.ca or 905.479.7751

As part of our ongoing commitment to your safety and well-being within our community, we would like to remind everyone of an important practice when walking on our streets.

WALK FACING TRAFFIC.
By facing oncoming traffic, you have better visibility and can react promptly to any approaching vehicles, reducing the risk of accidents.

Please walk on the sidewalk when available and not the street.

SCAMS

Protect yourself from scams by staying vigilant and informed. Be skeptical of unsolicited communication or offers, especially if they involve sharing of personal or financial information.

Avoid giving out information over the phone or sending money to unfamiliar or untrusted sources. Remember, you are not obligated to let anyone into your home, for example to check your furnace or water heater, and the city does not solicit sales of flood protection measures. If you're unsure, ask yourself "Could this be a scam?".

If you suspect that you or someone you know is being targeted, report it to York Regional Police online or by calling **1.866.876.5423**

Happy 30th Anniversary to Peppertree Klassics

Participating in the 360Experience to help raise funds for 360kids.

PLAYGROUNDS

As part of the Accessibilities for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the city is improving playground accessibility in community parks. There are a number of parks in Ward 4 that have been, and will be refurbished. Sand is being removed from play areas and will be replaced with engineered wood fiber. In addition, changes may be needed to pathways and/or curbs. Once the area has been completed the park will remain closed for a short time in order to allow new sod to grow.

DEVELOPMENT

Mount Joy Secondary Plan – approved with conditions that tie growth to infrastructure including; Rapid Transit Way on Major Mackenzie, Donald Cousens Parkway being connected to Markham Rd and a new GO Station at Major Mackenzie and Markham Rd. City Staff are still determining how best to integrate all components.

Markville Mall Secondary Plan and Application from Cadillac Fairview – on going

144 Main St N – no update

347 Main St N – approval for maximum of 14 townhomes

5871 Hwy 7 E – no update

ALECTRA

Occasionally, essential infrastructure work needs to be performed by Alectra which may necessitate a power outage. Please ensure that your Alectra contact details (cell phone and home phone) are up-to-date on your account to ensure that you are notified of any planned outages in your area.

BUILDING PERMITS

Many of us make changes to our homes without knowing that a building permit is often required. A general guide line is that permits are required for construction of a new building over ten square meters, or changes to an existing building including renovations or remodeling, changing the use of a building, structural changes, electrical, plumbing and mechanical work when modifying existing systems.

Building codes exist to establish minimum standards for the construction, alteration, and maintenance of buildings to ensure that buildings/renovations are constructed in a way that helps reduce the potential for accidents, structural failures, and health hazards. Ultimately, they're in place to protect the people who live and work in buildings and the community at large.

COMPREHENSIVE ZONING BY-LAW (CZB)

Council approved a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2024-19. While there are a small number of site specific appeals, once these appeals are resolved the CZB will be retroactive to January 31st 2024. The majority of Ward 4 is under Residential Established Neighbourhood Low Rise (RES-ENLR). Residential Low Rise areas north of 16th are under zones RES-LR1, RES-LR2 and RES-LR3. Highlights of the new CZB are below:

INFILL AND ADDITIONS

Development standards have changed. Size of homes will now be regulated with set-backs and lot coverages for both the main and second floor and will focus on the massing of a building while providing wider side-yard setbacks to help maintain the character of the older neighbourhoods.

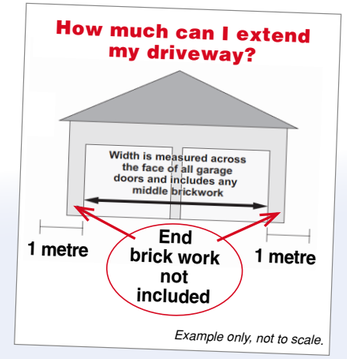
SOFT LANDSCAPING

A soft landscaping strip of 1.5 m is now required around all interior and rear lot lines of all properties in RES-ENLR.

RES-LR1 requires 1.2m, and in all other zones 0.6m is required.

Soft landscaping means trees, shrubs, flowers, grass or horticultural elements.

DRIVEWAYS AND HARD LANDSCAPING



The maximum driveway width cannot exceed the garage door width plus 2m. Additionally, a driveway cannot be wider than 50% of the lot frontage or widened to the property line. The minimum required soft landscaping strip must always be maintained.

Changes have also been made to the amount of hardscaping allowed in your front and rear yards including:

Front Yard – Hard landscaping cannot exceed 15% of the area of the front yard. Driveways, porches and stairs are not included in the calculation.

Rear Yard – Hard landscaping can cover up to 50% of the minimum required rear yard setback. For example, if the minimum rear yard setback is 7.5m, hard landscaping can project a maximum of 3.75m into the setback area. It is important to check what the setbacks are for your property prior to starting any landscaping renovations.

Swimming Pools - A 1.2m strip of hard landscaping is permitted around the pool.

Why is this important?... Maintaining soft landscaping on your property provides numerous environmental, ecological, aesthetic and health benefits, and also plays a crucial role in water management by absorbing rainwater and reducing run-off. This helps prevent flooding in our community.

For additional information on the CZB please visit the Markham website.

ACCESSORY BUILDINGS

Most lots will now be able to have two accessory buildings ranging between 15 and 20 square meters depending on the size of your lot. Minimum setback is 1.2m but can be reduced to 0.5m under certain circumstances.

Please remember that a building permit is required for any accessory building over 15 square meters.