ward4news

Update from your Markham Council Representative Karen Rea

Spring/Summer 2018

You're Invited!

Please join me, June 23, for ice cream, BBQ, entertainment and more!

Noon to 2 PM
Markham District Veterans Association
7 Washington St, Markham.

Elfin around at the First Christmas Market at the Markham Civic Centre

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Dear Residents,

Another year has gone by and this is the last term for the current Council. We have a Provincial Election in June and the Municipal Election in October. We do have protocols in place due to an Election year, but business still continues and we are all here to assist you in the local issues as normal. Our Farmers market will be starting on May 12th on the corner of Robinson and Main St. come join us at the Science Rendezvous that kicks of the beginning of the Market. We are continuing with Music on Main every Friday, come out and listen to some local talent and support the businesses on Main St. The Music festival, Car Classic and our local "Proud to be Canadian" parade on July 1st are just a few of the things happening locally this year in Ward 4. We held our first Annual Christmas market at the Civic Centre last year which was a huge success. It was great to see so many residents out for the market, activities, and the number one attraction SANTA. Thank you to everyone that helped to organize, volunteer, donated and those that came to the event. We could not have done it without all of you. A special thank you to Santa for taking time out of his busy schedule to join us.

My annual Ward 4 BBQ is on Saturday June 23rd from noon till 2pm and is being held at the Markham District Veterans Hall at 7 Washington St. Come out and enjoy some food and entertainment.

Have a safe and wonderful summer.

Karen

Overdue Property tax Notices

In the City of Markham, all property tax accounts that are in arrears will receive Overdue Notifications, in addition to their property tax bills. Overdue Notices are issued two times annually, following the interim and final tax billing.

April - Overdue Notice

November - Overdue Notice

Overdue notifications constitute the 1st notification stage for all tax accounts, and include all overdue amounts; taxes in arrears, penalty/interest, and all items added as taxes. A charge of $5.50 is added to all tax accounts receiving this notification.

Second Suites, STA's (Short Term Accommodations), Rooming Houses

A Special Development Services Council meeting was held on March 27, 2018 to discuss Rooming Houses, Second Suites and STA's. The final recommendation report is tentatively scheduled for April 30, 2018. It will then be voted on by Council May 16th 2018 at 7pm. Please refer to the Markham.ca website in the upcoming Council and Committee meetings section for confirmation of the meeting dates and for a copy of the report.

City Park Signs

New signs have been installed in our public parks. Each park has a specific address. The name of the park and the municipal address of the park is placed on the front and the actual street name is placed on the back. This process was designed for parks that connect with multiple streets and this approach has been used Citywide to ensure that park signs offer all information necessary in the event of an emergency and to reduce response time for large parks that have multiple entrance points.

Keeping drains free and clear

Storm sewers are the grates you see along the streets and are designed to collect rain water and snow-melt only. Nothing else! This system is in place to prevent flooding in our streets and to re-direct the water to a water source. Water that enters the storm sewer system flows directly into our ponds, streams, rivers and lakes without being treated. Please do not dispose of any household liquids, including paint into our drains. FOG (fats, oil and grease) should be placed in your green bin.

Flood update

The July 16, 2017 extreme storm event resulted in widespread reported flooding in Ward 4. In response to this event the City approved the recommended advancement of technical studies to identify long-term storm and sanitary infrastructure improvements in both Markham Village and Unionville. Staff has proposed an interim Private Property Plumbing Protection Program including backwater valve and sump pump subsidy program for high risk areas, which will be subject to certain requirements. A meeting to discuss this program and the flood will be held at Markham Village Community Centre on April 26th 2017 at 7pm.

Summer Company Student Program

If you've got a winning idea for starting a new business and are a student who is not afraid of hard work, then you should consider applying to Ontario's Summer Company Program. You could be eligible to receive up to $3,000 in government funding to help you start and operate your own business.

The application period for Summer Company 2018 is now open, until May 19. Apply early, as spaces are limited.

For more information on the Summer Company 2018 program, please contact us at msbc@markham.ca or call 905-477-7000 x 6722.

Detailed guidelines can be found at: https://www.ontario.ca/page/summer-company-program-guidelines

360KIDS

I participated in the 360Experience for the second time in March. My scenario was that I had recently immigrated to Canada and had 3 siblings, after living with family friends and things became tough, our friends were not able to provide food, clothing and other basic needs. We had to leave. We had been separated into different shelters and I wanted to find a shelter for myself and my brother together. From Richmond Hill we made our way to Newmarket to Belinda's place, to find out it was full and only took females. We then walked over an hour to Inn from the Cold shelter to see if they could accommodate us, first stopping at a Gas station to ask for directions and to have a few minutes out of the cold and wind. When this second option didn't work, we walked back to Yonge St and caught a bus and rode on the bus down to Finch Subway and then back to Richmond Hill, "bus napping", a warm and safe place until you are asked to leave. The last couple of hours were spent in a parking lot, until we were able to return to home base at 6am. We saw people on the bus that we were doing the same thing as we were, yet we were able to go home after the one night.

For more information on 360kids and what they do or how you can help visit www.360kids.ca

Whistle Cessation

Transport Canada "Procedure for Elimination Whistling at Public Grade Crossings" requires that the Municipality pass a resolution and adopt a By-law to implement whistle cessation at the prescribed crossings. The By-law was passed on March 20th 2018 that train whistles should not be used. Upgrades are not finished at this time and we hope that they will be completed by the end of the summer. Please check the City website for further updates.

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Summer in Markham

Music on Main St

Starting June 29th and every Friday evening 6 pm- 9pm at various locations

July 1st Canada Day

Proud to be Canadian is holding their annual Canada Day parade.

Starting approx 10.30am at Reesor Park.

Bring your friends, relatives, & pets for the walk along our local streets.

Festivities at Milne with fireworks at dusk.

Parade starting at 4pm at Markville Mall.

Markham Village Music Festival

June 15th and June 16th.

Markham Auto Classic

The show with all the great cars & live music on Main St - Sept 9th .

Parking By-Law

Did you know that our Parking By-Law prohibits obstruction of any portion of the City side walk.

You could be subject to a parking ticket if a complaint is received and you are caught parking illegally.

Please make sure you are parking correctly and do not interfere with pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Ecological Corridor

As part of the long term vision to protect a connected natural Heritage system, the City has identified an east-west wild life corridor in our Official Plan. Strategically located wildlife corridors connect core habitats and support the long term survival and sustainability of plant diversity and wildlife by allowing the safe passage of animals for feeding, breeding and migration. We have one opportunity to connect natural heritage systems across the Rouge sub-watershed though a corridor located North of Elgin Mills Rd connecting the Little Rouge Creek, Robinson Creek, Bruce and Berczy Creek. This does come at a cost, as lands would need to be purchased from developers if Council endorses the corridor.

Development Applications:

Andrin Developments:

The Bridge (Church) on 16th Avenue has sold part of their land. Application is presently being updated and the proposal is for semi detached homes and townhomes.

FJ Homes:

A Zoning By-law Amendment for the development of 15 detached residential lots for the parcel of land southwest of the intersection of Country Ridge Drive and Roy Rainey Avenue has been received

We are aiming to have a Public Meeting on June 11th 2017 at 7 pm in Council Chambers.

FCF LOGO

For general inquiries contact the City of Markham Contact Centre

customerservice@markham.ca

905-477-5530

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