



COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER RILEY BROCKINGTON

Carleton Heights Area Residents Association I Meeting January 24, 2023



BUDGET CONSULTATION

It's the city budget time! Join Councillors Brockington, Bradley, Carr and Menard to discuss what city initiatives are important to you!

- **Where:** Heron Road Community Centre
- **Address:** 1480 Heron Rd, Ottawa, On, K1V 6A5
- **When:** February 7 at 6:30 pm
- Registration link to join virtually: bit.ly/2023DBPC

You are invited to provide feedback and ask questions using the survey on Engage Ottawa.

- https://engage.ottawa.ca/city-budget-2023/survey_tools/budget-2023-survey-have-your-say

LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS

780 Baseline Road (Lone Star Plaza)

A virtual public information meeting was hosted by Councillor Devine on January 12. I was pleased to attend as well and noted the numerous questions and comments provided by those in attendance.

History and Context

In the autumn of 2022, The City of Ottawa received a revised Zoning By-law Amendment application to construct three highrise apartment buildings at 780 Baseline Road, locally known as the Lone Star Plaza. The height of the towers and number of units both increased from the original application.

The towers were originally proposed to be 25-29 storeys in height and are now 28-32 storeys. The number of units have been amended to increase from 868 to 998. The podiums have been reduced in height from 6 storeys to 4.

A new city park is proposed for 7 and 9 Hillard Avenue.

There continues to be community concern about the height and density, in addition to the strain on existing infrastructure related to this application.

There is still no date confirmed at this time for a Planning Committee hearing.

I am facilitating a virtual meeting with CHARA members, the developer and the planning team, and the City Planner on Friday, February 3 at 3 pm. This meeting is an opportunity for CHARA members to engage in dialogue with the developer in a small group setting. I will present your questions to the developer prior to February 3 and he will have the chance to respond in a meaningful way.

Mary will share the agenda and zoom link in the coming days.

The Ottawa Hospital

Construction is underway on the site of The Ottawa Hospital's new campus that will serve patients across the greater Ottawa and Eastern Ontario region, Western Quebec and Nunavut.

The first phase of construction includes building a parking garage to support the hospital. Preparatory work that requires access to the LRT trench, which crosses the site, is required before construction can begin on the parking garage. This preparatory work includes, but is not limited to, a geotechnical review, rock strength analysis, and overburden removal along both sides of the Trillium trench to accommodate possible future widening of the LRT track.

Construction teams for the LRT (TNext) are currently working in this area. For health and safety reasons, the Ontario Ministry of Labour does not allow this work to take place simultaneously. As a result, work to prepare for the hospital's parking garage will take place between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. beginning January 23 (this week) for approximately 8 weeks.

Residents are invited to attend a virtual public information session via zoom for the TOH Phase 3 and 4 site plan on February 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm. The applicant will present their application and answer questions. Those interested in attending can register using this link: [The Ottawa Hospital Virtual Public Information Session](#)

RIVER WARD TRAFFIC CALMING ISSUES – VISION FOR 2023 AND BEYOND

History and Context:

In the early part of the last decade, River Ward became the pilot project ward in the City for traffic calming, specifically, Springland Drive. An inventory was amassed and when I came to office in 2014, had a number of speed display boards that circulated around the ward and yellow flex stakes (installed in Spring, removed in November).

During the 2018-2022 Term of Council, every ward was assigned \$50,000 on an annual basis to address traffic calming initiatives. After paying a set labour fee, the net amount was approximately \$40,000.

This amount covers seasonal calming, such as painted messaging and yellow flex stakes, speed display boards and now permanent features, like speed bumps, speed tables, curb extensions, bulb-outs etc.

During the 2022 election, a number of issues were identified by local residents which were documented. My task is to compile those issues and consider how to address them.

The following streets have been identified by the public as having issues with traffic speed and in some cases, limited sightlines, dangerous conditions.

The purpose of this January update is to publicly identify the streets that are a concern, to be transparent with the Association and public and for me to comment on what plans, if any, are in place to address these concerns. Feedback from CHARA and members of the public are always welcomed.

Carleton Heights/Courtland Park

Kochar, south side, Prince of Wales to the park, parking lot (east end). Where were the previous flex stakes on this strip located?

Lexington, north-south section, between Baseline and Lexington Park, assess for flex stakes

Normandy Ave (North), btwn Prince of Wales and Fisher, assess for flex stakes

Normandy Ave (South), btwn Prince of Wales and Fisher, assess for flex stakes

VACANT UNIT TAX

The Vacant Unit Tax (VUT) system is now live. If you have not received a notice for reporting purposes, one will be arriving in homeowners' mailboxes or inboxes over the next week for each property they own. It provides information such as the roll number and access code and identifies the next steps in the process to file the required occupancy status declaration for the 2022 calendar year. Declarations must be filed between January and March 16, 2023. Property owners must provide some basic information on the occupancy of their property, including if it is their principal residence.

It will only take a few minutes to file the online declaration at ottawa.ca/vut. To access the declaration form, you must input your roll number and access code which will be mailed in the coming days or can be found on the latest tax bill. My ServiceOttawa account holders can sign into their account and complete the declaration without needing to insert their roll number or access code.

If you have a property that was vacant for 184 or more days in 2022, you may indicate whether any of the following exemptions apply:

- Death of a registered owner
- Property owner was in a hospital or long-term care facility
- Arm's length sale of the property
- Specific court orders prohibiting occupancy, sale, or rental of the property
- Extended renovations or construction
- Was used as a cottage rental with a valid permit for at least 100 days

If the property was vacant and does not qualify for an exemption, it may be subject to a one per cent charge of the property's current assessed value on the final 2023 property tax bill. Declarations are subject to audit to confirm their authenticity.

Homeowners will be required to file a declaration every year, between January and mid-March.

The City has declaration options for those who require accessibility-related supports or for those who do not have computer or internet access. More information will be provided in January. Vacant Unit Tax revenues will help fund affordable housing initiatives, in accordance with the City's Ten-Year Affordable Housing and Homeless Plan, which commits capital funding for the construction of up to 500 new affordable units annually.

Visit ottawa.ca/vut for more information or you may contact them directly.

Contact: Revenue Services Phone: (613) 580 – 2444 option 3
Online: My Service Ottawa through the Vacant Unit Tax Home Page
Canada Relay: (613) 580-2400

SNOW CLEARING - HYDRANTS

Be a Hydrant Hero! Ottawa has over 23,000 fire hydrants across the city. Just like a car parked in front of a hydrant, snow can block a firefighter's access and cause delays in an emergency. How can you help? The City is looking for local Hydrant Heroes who can help our crews keep 1.5 metres clear around their neighbourhood hydrant. These heroes are very important in helping monitor snow levels around their local hydrant and shoveling snow away to prevent a buildup

EVENTS

1. Annual River Ward Breakfast for Community Association Presidents and Vice-Presidents

I would like to take this opportunity to cordially invite you to attend my annual River Ward Breakfast for Community Association Presidents and Vice-Presidents.

All community associations are invited to send their President and Vice Presidents or in the event of a scheduling conflict, their designates, to the breakfast.

Each Community Association President is asked to confirm who their two attendees will be by February 1.

When: Friday February 3
Time: 7:30 am
Where: Broadway Bar and Grill, 1896 Prince of Wales, at Fisher Avenue

2. River Ward Family Movie Night (Hotdog + Snacks)

When: Friday, February 10
Time: 6 pm
Where: Alexander Community Centre, 960 Silver St

3. River Ward Trade Fair at St Pius X HS

I have traditionally hosted a River Ward Youth Summit in my ward on an annual basis that engaged high school aged residents for a half day session here at City Hall.

The format of the session has changed and I now host a trade-fair type event at both Brookfield HS and St Pius X HS over the lunch hour period.

Various City departments attend, connect with students and showcase main projects from each department. I have provided OC Transpo, OPH, OPL, Economic Development, ByLaw Services, OPS and Ottawa Tourism the opportunity to attend.

When: Thursday, March 2
Time: 11:15 am – 12 pm.
Where: Outside of cafeteria

4. International Women's Day Speaker Series

When: Tuesday, March 7
Time: 6:30 pm – 8 pm
Where: Virtual. A webinar link will be made available at a closer date