
New in Ward 20

The Island Airport is no longer operating on Bathurst Street!

City Council voted unanimously to rename lower Bathurst Street. The new name is Eireann Quay. Eireann is the Irish word for Ireland. The new name has been chosen to honour the opening of a new waterfront park located at the south end of what used to be Bathurst Street. New street signs will now be up in time for the state visit of Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, on June 21 for the official opening of Ireland Park.

To view the design and plan for the park see <http://www.irelandparkfoundation.com/>

New Sidewalks for Eireann Quay

No sooner was the street south of Queens Quay been renamed, it was also reconfigured. The Toronto and East York Community Council has voted unanimously to build a sidewalk and narrow what used to be Bathurst Street as it runs south from Queens Quay under its new name Eireann Quay.

The redesign will also see the intersection where Eireann Quay meets Bathurst at Queens Quay reconfigured as well. The lay-by at the south-west corner will be eliminated and the park expanded. The sidewalk that runs along the south side of Queens Quay will now turn south at the corner and run directly to the lake parallel to the road. As well, due to safety concerns raised by ambulance services and the fire department, the taxi stand on what used to be lower Bathurst Street will be eliminated and a fire route declared on the southern portion of the roadway.

The redesign marks a huge victory for the local community. Residents have demanded control over their neighbourhood street since commercial flights resumed, under protest, on the island.

The new name, design and regulations provide a safer intersection for children in the community, and safer pedestrian access to Ireland Park.

Planting on McCaul Street

Last month the TTC and transportation dropped a planter off at the south end of McCaul Street near Queen. Plans approved at Community Council indicated that the empty concrete planter would include soil and a small tree. In reality, Transportation no longer provides trees for city streets, the TTC refused to get involved and Parks and Forestry staff said that the planter failed to meet city guidelines for a tree or a plant and so none would be provided. Transportation, after asking for the planter to be put on the site to prevent streetcars turning on to Queen from colliding with traffic, said that without a tree in the planter it would be forced to fill the concrete tube with asphalt.



My office contacted a group of local artists involved with Pedestrian Sundays in Kensington Market to transform the bleak and lonely planter. With thanks and praise to Kelsey Carriere for her artistic vision and Shamez Amlani and Yvonne Bambrick, the end result is now on display.

Advice on problem bars and nightclubs in your neighbourhood

At a community meeting about College Street this week, staff from the Toronto Police Service, the City's Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS) and the Alcohol & Gaming Commission provided some tips for how to deal with problem bars in your neighbourhood.

Inspector Bryce Evans, 14 Division, recommends that residents report their complaints about bars to the police, and complaints about specific establishments are tracked. He encouraged residents to e-mail complaints to 14 Division at 14division@torontopolice.on.ca, and the officer assigned to the issue will be given the details. You can also call 416-808-2222 (Toronto Police main number for non-emergencies).

If you live east of Spadina Ave, contact 52 Division, at 52division@torontopolice.on.ca, or by phone at 416-808-2222.

The City of Toronto bylaws say that after 11pm, noise cannot be clearly audible from bars and nightclubs. The Toronto and East York office of MLS can be reached at 416-338-0800. Residents should log and record their noise complaints, and may be required to testify in court about the matter. MLS staff may also ask to visit your premises to record noise levels.

The Alcohol and Gaming Commission primarily deals with issues related to liquor licenses, such as if a bar is serving after hours, overcrowding, etc. They can be contacted at (416) 326-8700, or Licensing@agco.on.ca.

The King-Spadina Residents Association has been working on these issues in the Entertainment District and their website is a great resource for other neighbourhoods. <http://www.king-spadina.com>

Upcoming at Council and Committees

Section 37 Money and Heritage Studies

On Thursday May 3, 2007 the Planning and Growth Management Committee approved a motion by Councillors Vaughan and Rae calling for an Official Plan amendment to allow Section 37 funds to be used to fund Heritage Conservation District Studies.

The battle to allow Section 37 money from developers to fund heritage studies was sent back to the City's Planning and Growth Committee by City Council. The proposal to change the official plan and allow communities or the city to fund heritage conservation studies is most vigorously opposed by planning staff. Traditionally, development funds have been used entirely for capital projects. Heritage studies, in the past, have been financed through general revenues. Budget cuts have now eliminated all funding for everything from secondary studies to heritage conservation studies to avenue studies. In other words without a change to the official plan, it will be impossible to fund or conduct the detailed planning studies required under the official plan to protect neighbourhoods facing development pressure.

Heritage conservation districts not only protect historic residential districts, but they can also be used to protect older commercial districts as well.

At the next sitting of city council, the Queen Street Heritage study and proposed designation will be considered. The study seeks to designate the Victorian built form of Queen Street from redevelopment. The study and the designation would not have been possible without a negotiated settlement between the community and a Queen Street developer. This policy change is important in ensuring that this type of study and designation is not to be the last of its kind.

Proposed Housing Assessment and Referral Centre

On April 12, the Government Management Committee deferred a decision on the purchase of 129 Peter Street for a proposed housing assessment and referral centre.

Here is the background on this proposal:

The proposed facility is not a shelter but rather a housing assessment and referral centre. The difference is important. What's being proposed is a centre that will offer service to street patrols, the police and the general public as they try to get people off the streets and into housing. People currently sleeping on sidewalks, parks and alleys will be brought to the centre and then city workers will find permanent housing or facilities for the "street" people to live in. While housing is found for people there will be a capacity for up to 40 people (20 men, 10 women, 5 couples) to stay at the facility for short periods of time.

This facility used to be located at 110 Edward Street. That building is now being turned into permanent housing. The experience at the old facility is that most people do not stay there for more than a week. The goal of the program is to get people off the streets and into homes, not shelters. This will go a long way towards eliminating the dynamic of having people sleeping on street corners.

The price and business model for the facility will be considered again by the **Government Management Committee on May 10, 2007 at 9:30 am**. People who want to depute (speak to the committee) should register with Yvonne Davies (the committee administrator) at 416-392-7443 or by email to ydavies@toronto.ca.

Planning & Development

Creating a better model for community involvement

As you know, one of my top priorities for the next few months is to establish/develop/create a more effective model for working with residents and neighbourhood associations to deal with the full range of planning issues, challenges and opportunities facing us in Ward 20. Eti Greenberg is leading this initiative in my office. Our next meeting:

Date: Monday May 7, 2007
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: City Hall, 2nd floor, Meeting Room B

For more information about this process, contact Eti at egreenb@toronto.ca

Bloor Street Corridor Visioning Study – Kick-Off Meeting

The City of Toronto is embarking on an exciting study to develop a planning vision for the future development of Bloor Street West, between Avenue Road and Bathurst Street. You are invited to the initial meeting with City staff and its consultant team to help launch the study and provide valuable community input into the process.

Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2007
Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Walmer Road Baptist Church, Upper Gym
188 Lowther Avenue

This information meeting will provide an opportunity for the community to view a presentation introducing the study, its goals and objectives. Attendees will then be able to ask questions and offer feedback through discussion and interactive exercises.

This is the first in a series of public forums scheduled over the next several months. For further background information, study progress and updates including future meeting notices, please check in often on our project website at: www.toronto.ca/planning/bloorcorridor.htm

If you would like further information about this study, please contact:

Barry Brooks, Senior Planner
City of Toronto
416-392-1316
bbrooks@toronto.ca

Jennifer Keesmaat, Partner
Office for Urbanism
416-971-7521
jk@officeforurbanism.com

* Attendant Care Services can be made available with some advance notice.

Ward 20 Goes Green

Join us at Councillor Vaughan's Community Environment Day!

Date: Saturday May 12, 2007
Time: 10 am - 2 pm
Location: Central Technical School, 725 Bathurst Street

How many times have you heard that one person's trash is another person's treasure? It's a familiar saying, and for good reason: it's true!

Bring us all of your used household items and we'll make sure they get recycled or reused by people who want and need them. Best of all, you'll be keeping your junk out of the landfill, so everyone wins.

- Small household items like dishes and ornaments will go to Goodwill, along with books, linens and clothing. We'll even take your broken VCRs, cell phones, computers and other electronics and make sure they are properly recycled and/or disposed.

- You can drop off art supplies such as pencils, markers, crayons, yarn and fabric, as well as used buttons, costume jewellery and dress-up clothing. They will be donated to ArtsJunktion—a Toronto District School Board warehouse for teachers—and reused by creative young minds.
- Don't forget to bring us your leftover cleaning supplies and solvents, motor oil, paint, old and unused medication, mercury thermometers/thermostats and pesticides. These items are household hazardous wastes and need safe disposal.

You can also pick up:

- Recycling bins and other containers are available for purchase, for exchange with broken ones or for free to new residents (with proper proof of new residency and identification)!
- There are water efficiency tools for sale such as rain barrels and indoor kits. There's also the paint exchange—bring some in or take a look at what's been dropped off and help yourself.
- And of course, everyone's favourite: the giant pile of FREE leaf compost. Come prepared with your own containers and shovels. Haul it away and spruce up your lawn, garden and flower beds.

For more information visit the City's website at http://www.toronto.ca/environment_days/index.htm

Compost Days

It's a pleasure to make the City's finest compost available to residents for your gardens. If you are not able to pick up compost on Environment Day, visit one of these sites and pick up what you need. Please come after 5 pm and bring your own shovel and containers.

May 16	Vermont Square Park 819 Palmerston Avenue (Bathurst and Dupont area)
May 23	Jean Sibelius Park 50 Kendal Avenue (Bloor and Bathurst area)
May 30	Bellevue Square Park on Augusta Avenue, north of Dundas Street (Kensington Market area)
June 6	Huron-Washington Parkette 420 Huron Street, south of Bloor (Huron Street Community)
June 13	Little Norway Park s/w corner at Queen's Quay West & Eireann Quay (Bathurst Quay area)

Downtown West Solar Energy Project

The all-volunteer Downtown West Solar Energy Project has spent the last eight months organizing a bulk purchase of solar water-heating and solar electricity-generating systems for homes. At four public meetings this spring, speakers will describe the costs and benefits of installing solar energy systems, answer questions and indicate the deadline for homeowners to sign up to take advantage of the bulk purchase agreement that will be negotiated with one or more solar companies. They will also present the financing options that they have negotiated for participating households.

To learn more, please attend any of the following meetings:

Annex – Thursday May 10th, 7:00 to 10:00 pm, Walmer Road Baptist Church, 188 Lowther Avenue at Walmer

Seaton Village – Sunday May 13th, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, St. Alban's Boys and Girls Club, 843 Palmerson Avenue, south of Dupont

Harbord Village/Kensington – Wednesday May 23rd, 7:00 to 10:00 pm, St. Stephens in the Fields Church, 103 Bellevue Avenue, at College

For more information, visit www.ourpower.ca, email Tim Grant at tim@greenteacher.com or telephone David Booz at 416 806 2669.

Let the City plant a tree for you!

Come to St. Alban's Square Park on May 12, 2007 between 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to choose a tree for your property and City staff will come and plant it at your home! For more information contact: GreenTheAnnex@sympatico.ca

Home Renovation Forums

From May 3-17, the City of Toronto is hosting free forums on home renovations. City staff and representatives from other organizations will cover a variety of topics, including:

- planning additions or alterations to your home
- permits and other approvals
- property standards
- healthy renovations
- fire safety
- energy efficiency
- water conservation incentive programs
- recycling construction materials
- heritage preservation
- financing
- working with contractors.

Forum locations are as follows:

- **Monday, May 7** - Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W.
- **Wednesday, May 9** - North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge St.
- **Tuesday, May 15** - Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall
- **Thursday, May 17** - York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Ave. W.

Presentations are from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Staff will be on hand at information tables from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Further details are available at www.toronto.ca/reno or by calling Access Toronto at 416-338-0338.

Get involved

Consultations on Community Arts

Toronto Culture is asking Toronto residents and culture stakeholders for their ideas on how to build the community arts sector and enhance arts programs across the city. Dates, times and locations of meetings are listed at <http://www.toronto.ca/culture/arts-services/communityarts.htm>

Consultations on Toronto Revenue Tools

The City of Toronto is hosting a public consultation inviting Torontonians to discuss the possible new revenue tool options available to the City under the City of Toronto Act. Feedback collected at the consultations will be included in a report scheduled for the Executive Committee meeting in June 2007.

The new revenue options include applying a new alcohol or tobacco sales tax, vehicle ownership tax, land transfer tax and others. These new city revenues could be used for city-building programs and services such as transportation, parks and recreation, culture and climate change.

Consultations are as follows:

- **Monday, May 7, 7-9pm** – Harbourfront Centre, Brigantine Room (inside the York Quay Centre), 235 Queens Quay West
- **Tuesday, May 15, 7-9pm** – Etobicoke Collegiate Institute, 86 Montgomery Road (NE of Islington and Bloor)
- **Thursday, May 17, 7-9pm** – Memorial Hall (below the North York Public Library), 5100 Yonge Street
- **Wednesday May 23, 7-9pm** – Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive

Participants must register with Access Toronto, by calling 416-338-0338. Registration begins May 2.

If you can't attend the event and/or want to send comments, this can be done by e-mailing revenue_tools@toronto.ca, or by writing to: Revenue Tools, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 5th Floor, east tower, Toronto ON, M5H 2N2.

For more information, visit http://www.toronto.ca/finance/revenue_tools.htm.

Join Adam in the Community

Jane's Walk

To honour author and urban activist Jane Jacobs, who died a year ago, Mayor David Miller announced in November 2006 that May 4 would officially be Jane Jacobs Day in Toronto.

Many of Jane's peers, colleagues, friends and admirers have discussed how best to honour her legacy and have settled on the idea of "Jane's Walk", to reinforce her idea of walkable, dense, compact and diverse neighbourhoods as the hallmarks of a healthy city. These characteristics help knit together the people of a neighborhood into a strong and resourceful community.

The First Annual "Jane's Walk" will take place on Saturday, May 5, 2007, in numerous locations throughout Toronto. Each walk will feature a tour guide who can speak knowledgeably about the neighbourhood, and will highlight the people, places, and public spaces that make that particular community interesting and unique.

"Jane's Walk" is an exceptional opportunity for Torontonians to discover the city; both places they think they know well, and places they want to explore.

“For illustrations, please look closely at real cities. While you are looking, you might as well also listen, linger, and think about what you see.”

Jane Jacobs, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*

These walks feature a tour guide who can speak knowledgeably about the neighbourhood, and will highlight the people, places and public spaces that make that particular community interesting and unique.

No sign up is necessary. There is no cost to participate. Please wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for the weather.

Join Adam on Jane’s Walk:

Kensington Market to Alexandra Park- Observations to Heal the "Great Divide"

Date: Saturday May 5, 2007

Time: 3 pm

Location: Casa Acoreana Coffee Shop. (NE corner of Augusta at Baldwin)

For more information see <http://www.janeswalk.net/walks/adamvaughan.php>

Contact us:

If you have a concern about your community or the ward you would like to discuss with Councillor Vaughan or our staff team, please call the office at **416-392-4044** or contact us by email: **Councillor_Vaughan@toronto.ca**