



Karen Ras

COUNCILLOR WARD 2 NEWS



FALL WINTER 2017

E karen.ras@mississauga.ca

W karenras.ca

T 905-896-5200

Dear Friends and Neighbours

It's hard to believe that we are almost at the end of 2017 - a very busy and exciting year for Canada, the City and specifically, our beautiful community of Ward 2. I hope that you enjoyed the many Canada 150 celebrations throughout the year, I know I did! Thanks to all of the community groups and neighbourhoods that included me in their celebrations!

Now we focus our attention on the remainder of this Fall, the upcoming Winter and 2018. I hope you find the information included in this newsletter helpful and useful as you look forward to the year ahead. For more frequent updates and Ward information, please sign up for my electronic monthly newsletter, by calling my office at **905-896-5200**, or visiting my website at karenras.ca.

As always, I am regularly in the community; at meetings, events, home visits or walking my dog. If there is anything you wish to discuss with me, any ideas you have for our community or if you just want to say hi, I welcome the opportunity.

On behalf of my staff, Jennifer Waye and Gaggan Gill, I look forward to continuing to serve your interests and assist you over the coming months.

Karen Ras,
Councillor Ward 2

Lakeshore Connecting Communities

The Lakeshore Connecting Communities is a study that will provide the blueprint for addressing the transportation and mobility needs of those living and working in the Lakeshore communities, by determining the most efficient way to move people in the Lakeshore Road corridor over the next 25 years.

Today, Lakeshore Road intersects a mix of established and developing communities. By 2041, the Lakeshore Communities will grow by approximately 56,000 people and 16,500 jobs. Preserving and enhancing the community's character and sense of place is important.

Without any improvements to the transportation network in the Lakeshore Communities, congestion will worsen for all road users. With limited road capacity, greater reliance on transit, walking and cycling is required. The existing pedestrian paths and cycling routes are discontinuous and can be better integrated into the overall transportation network. The existing transit service will require additional capacity in the future and increased transit priority measures, such as queue jump lanes at intersections.

The Lakeshore Connecting Communities project is currently in Phase 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment process for this Transportation Master Plan. The second round of public consultation took place at the end of September 2017. It is anticipated that the final phase of public open house sessions will be held in the first quarter of 2018.

Further information on the project can be found on the project website at connectlakeshore.ca. Questions can be directed to the project lead, Mark Vandersluis at mark.vandersluis@mississauga.ca.

Advancing our Interests

Working with our provincial and federal partners is critical in helping us achieve our vision of a Community for Life - a place where everyone enjoys a sense of belonging and has access to the services and opportunities they need to thrive throughout each stage of their lives.

The annual Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference took place in Ottawa from August 13 to 16. Each year, Councillors attend AMO to advocate to Ministers and Ministry staff regarding issues that strongly impact the residents and businesses in our community.

Key meetings this year were with:

- Hon. Helena Jaczek, Minister of Community and Social Services -- We advocated for an integrated Ontario Works service delivery model, similar to Peel's Families First program.
- Hon. Bob Chiarelli, Minister of Infrastructure -- We advocated for predictable and sustainable funding for our municipal infrastructure, as well as better and simpler funding models.
- Hon. Steven Del Duca, Minister of Transportation -- We advocated for improved goods movement and for the government to move forward with the Greater Toronto Area West Corridor planning.
- Additional delegation meetings were held with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the Ministry of Housing, and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Our advocacy work is a key strategy in ensuring we get the support we need from our partners. Working with other levels of government and the community, we will build a Community for Life in Mississauga and Peel.

We're Reimagining Mississauga's Malls

Mississauga is growing and our communities are evolving. To ensure the healthy development of our city, we're creating policies to direct potential redevelopment and intensification to strategic areas. Reimagining the Mall is an exciting new project that will guide the evolution of six community areas anchored by indoor

shopping malls, including Sheridan Centre and its surrounding area.

The study will help to ensure that future intensification in these areas is done sensitively and in a way that fosters healthy, mixed-use, complete communities. A mixed-use, complete community is one that has a range of housing options mixed with businesses and easy access to public transit, cycling routes and other transportation options. The idea being that

you can live, work, play and raise a family all within your own "complete community".

Have suggestions about how we can reimagine our malls and the areas around them? We want to hear from you! Community engagement will be ongoing and will include a variety of ways to participate. For more details, visit: reimaginingthmall.ca.



Taking part in celebrations for Bradley Museum's 50th Anniversary in June, 2017.

Emergency Wireless Alert Ready System Coming to Mississauga

Whether it's a severe winter storm or rising flood waters from Lake Ontario; when emergencies strike, we all want to ensure that our families are prepared and remain safe. But how do you know when a potential emergency is headed your way? Maybe you're tuned in to your favourite news outlet and weather app, or you've seen an emergency alert flash across your television or radio - but what if you could also receive alerts directly on your smart phone?

That's exactly what the 'Wireless Alert Ready' system will do when it launches in the spring of 2018. Information on evolving or impending events that have the potential to impact people, property, or the environment will now be delivered to everyone with access to an LTE network on their smart phone. Alerts will feature a bilingual banner notification, as well as a special tone and vibration that will distinguish it from regular messages and

notifications. The alerts use location services in order to deliver messages tailored specifically to the user's individual location - so whether you're at home in Ward 2, skiing in Banff, or heading to the cottage, you'll be able to receive relevant emergency alerts nationwide.

Wireless Alerts will not replace existing alerting systems - such as the ones heard on the radio or that flash across your TV occasionally. Those without access to a smart phone will still be able to receive emergency alerts in those formats.

The Wireless Alerting System does not replace the need for individual and community preparedness. It is important to continue to follow City alerts, news outlets and to remain aware of local conditions as emergency situations progress.

The City of Mississauga's Office of Emergency Management has a number of resources to help you and your family prepare for emergencies available on our website: mississauga.ca/portal/residents/emergency-officerresources. Learn about a variety of different hazards, download the flood prevention and recovery guide and even learn how to build your own ready-to-use, 72-hour emergency kit.

For more information about what the City of Mississauga is doing to prepare for emergencies and for tips on how to prepare you and your family -and even pets - for emergencies, visit: mississauga.ca/emergencymanagement.

Meeting with representatives from Sheridan Homelands Ratepayers Association (SHORA).



Drone Regulations

As the popularity of recreational drones increases, there are regulations in place that I want to make residents aware of.

The rules and regulations which currently govern the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) or drones in Canada are contained in the Canadian Aviation Regulations. These rules and regulations can be found on Transport Canada's website: tc.gc.ca.

Police Services in Canada are not currently authorized to enforce the regulations set out in this act. However, should a member of the public observe a UAV being operated in a manner considered to be an obvious threat to public safety, they should contact Peel Regional Police non-emergency line at 905-453-3311. Peel Regional Police may investigate the incident with respect to public safety issues.

If a drone is being operated by an individual on City property, members of the public may also contact the Citizen Call Centre at 311.

The operation of drones is regulated and enforced by Transport Canada. Unsafe drone operations should also be reported to Transport Canada using the following link: tc.gc.ca/eng/civilaviation/opssvs/drone-incident-report-form.

Complaints related to the collection or use of information, including personal information by a private operator of a drone, should also be brought to the attention of the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada using the following link: priv.gc.ca/en/report-a-concern/file-a-formal-privacy-complaint/.

West Village Project

West Village Partners are the new owners of 70 Mississauga Road South and intend to redevelop the site for a mix of uses, including residential, commercial, parks and campus.

In 2015, Council approved a Master Planning Framework for the site, to guide the future preparation of a master plan and development applications.

Earlier this year, West Village Partners prepared a draft master plan which was shared with the community and Council for information. You may find a link to the plan at inspirationportcredit.com.

West Village Partners have now submitted development applications which include:

- 2,500 residential units
- 13,820 sq.m. retail/public amenity space
- 22,750 sq.m. commercial building area (includes 16,700 sq.m. of campus uses)
- 12.5 ac of park

The draft master plan will continue to evolve through the development application review process, informed by input from the community, City and approval agencies. After this, the City will make final recommendations on the master plan and development applications.

CONTACT INFO

Ward 2 Councillor Karen Ras
Email: karen.ras@mississauga.ca
Phone: 905-896-5200



In the kitchen at Eden Food for Change.

Short Term Accommodation

In June 2016, I brought a motion to Council, requesting that staff examine the issue of short term accommodations, such as Air BnB, in Mississauga.

Currently, there are no municipal by-laws in place to regulate these rental homes. There is not much City staff or residents can do, other than reporting the homeowners to by-law officers and police. Realistically, I know an outright ban of these rentals is not possible, but I would like to see stronger regulations that focus on better consumer protection and maintain public safety. I regularly hear about short-term rental homes holding late night parties, with noise and garbage issues.

I conducted a recent survey in my electronic newsletter, and an overwhelming majority of respondents want the city to bring in a regulatory structure for short term accommodations. I am listening to residents and will continue to work toward that goal.

We are currently awaiting a report on the issue, which is being produced by the Planning and Building Department. Please contact my office if you would like a copy of the report or would like to be kept updated on this important subject.

Also, for additional information, please visit: mississauga.ca/shortterm.

Affordable Housing in Mississauga

As we move on from our beginnings as a suburban community into the sixth largest city in Canada, it comes with an increasing set of challenges. Over the last number of years, conversations have been taking place to figure out ways to make housing more affordable.

The City of Mississauga is a lower-tier municipality and not directly responsible for building affordable housing. However, we see housing affordability as an essential element of city building - one of the three main pillars along with infrastructure and transit.

In Mississauga, 30 per cent of our residents spend more than 30 per cent of their household income on housing - a very high number. That's why Mississauga City Council has endorsed a strategy to develop affordable housing called "Making Room for the Middle". We know there is a "missing middle" which represents a growing group of people in the middle class who don't qualify for social housing, but are priced out of an expensive housing market.

What can the City do? We can take actions to encourage the building of affordable market rental and ownership units. This would include a housing first policy for surplus lands, inclusionary zoning, deferring development charges and eliminating unnecessary regulations restricting second units, to name a few.

Daniels Corporation has proposed a development at 360 City Centre Drive that will contain 174 rental units, to help reduce the number of people on the Region's social housing wait list.

In June, Regional Council approved \$66 million in funding for the housing project and in July, Mississauga Council passed a motion to provide a \$2.7 million grant to offset development charges for the affordable housing project.

As a Peel Councillor, our Council continues to push forward in its affordable housing investments. In addition to the above, Peel is partnering with the Salvation Army Peel and Peel Streets to Homes, to help people experiencing homelessness move into permanent housing. The Peel Housing and Homelessness Plan brings together community partners to find innovative ways to increase affordable housing.

The Region continues to invest significantly in affordable housing - about twelve cents of every dollar of the Region's tax levy goes to increasing affordable housing and reducing homelessness. The Region also continues to advocate with the federal and provincial governments for policy changes and appropriate funding that will help to bolster the supply of affordable housing.

With over 12,500 households on Peel's waiting list, it is time for government at all levels to take action to address our housing crisis.

Should you wish to find out more about Mississauga's strategy, please visit: mississauga.ca/housingstrategy or peelregion.ca/housing.



Jerry Love Children's Fund thanks ROI Corporation for their donation to Play in the Park.

Service Line Warranties of Canada Optional Water, Sewer Line and In-home Plumbing Protection Programs for Homeowners

As a Peel homeowner, you are responsible for repairs to the water and sewer pipes that run from your home to your property line. The Region of Peel is responsible for the maintenance and repair of municipal water and sanitary sewer (wastewater) pipes only.

If a pipe on your property fails, it is your responsibility to pay for these repairs which can cost upwards of thousands of dollars, depending on the type of work. This can put you in a financial bind, especially when it's unexpected.

This is why the Region of Peel is pleased to endorse a new voluntary and optional repair program which provides coverage for repairs to your outside private water and sanitary sewer pipes, and in-home plumbing.

The Optional Water, Sanitary Sewer Line and In-home Plumbing Protection Plan Programs for Homeowners are managed and administered by Service Line Warranties of Canada (SLWC) and provide coverage 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. Information about the warranty program has been mailed out to residents and more information is available at peelregion.ca/servicelineprotection.

The collaboration between SLWC and the Region of Peel is a way to help increase your awareness of your property responsibilities. You can also check with your insurance company to see if they offer warranty protection for your private side pipes.

Clearing the Way this Winter

The City of Mississauga is busy preparing our fleet so that residents can continue to move around the City safely after it snows. During the winter, our crews and 377 pieces of equipment are ready to respond to winter storms around the clock, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

What We Clear:

The City clears and salts using a priority route system. Major roads, arterial roads, and local collectors such as Burnhamthorpe Road or Dundas Street are cleared first, so that emergency vehicles and transit can travel safely during and after a storm. Winter maintenance on residential roads, priority sidewalks, bus stops and pedestrian crossings starts once major roads are clear.

In a snow storm with 8 to 15 centimetres of accumulation, you can expect major roads to be cleared within 12 hours after the snow has stopped. Residential roads, priority sidewalks, bus stops and pedestrian crossings would be cleared within 24 hours of the snow ending.

Snow Season Parking:

A winter on-street parking restriction is **in effect between November 1 and March 31 from 2 until 6 a.m.** Vehicles left on City streets in contravention of the Traffic By-law may be issued a penalty notice and subject to towing and storage fees at the expense of the owner.

During snow clearing operations, temporary parking requests for on-street parking longer than 3 hours, or between 2 and 6 a.m., will not be issued and current ones will be suspended.

Stay Informed:

- Visit mississauga.ca/snow to track snow plows and salters online.
- Follow us on Twitter [@MississaugaSnow](https://twitter.com/MississaugaSnow) for updates.
- Call **3-1-1** (905-615-4311 outside city limits).

Going with the Flow...of Traffic

For many people in Mississauga, traffic is a daily frustration. As we approach a population of 800,000 and have more people commute into our city in the mornings to work, our issues are those of an urbanized city.

Over the last few years, the City has recognized that traffic management is not about adding more stoplights. The City proactively embarked on a plan and part of that plan was to create the Transportation Management Centre (TMC).

The next steps are ambitious. They include: replacing our aged traffic control system and implementing an Advanced Transportation Management System (ATMS) and testing 30 intersections using advanced communication technologies. The City has developed a strategy to convert nearly 800 signalized intersections to the new traffic control system. This is currently underway with the goal to transition all of these intersections before the end of 2018.

Now we're just getting started! In the coming months, specific corridors will be selected to test effectiveness and lessons learned for implementation. In Ward 2, the Dundas Street corridor (east Oakville/west Mississauga) was selected to pilot the new system. It is a prime location due to:

- High volume
- Sensitive to peak hour (commuter) traffic
- Diverse adjacent land use (residential, commercial, big box)
- Diverse roadways (two lane, three lane, turning lanes)
- Intersecting major arterial roads (Winston Churchill Blvd, Erin Mills Parkway)
- Interchanges with HWY 403

What information will be collected and provided to the drivers? Staff will be able to detect vehicle volumes, calculate signal timing and send this information back to the intersection in real time. Once enough data is collected, the system will be able to identify when specific traffic situations are present and automatically implement a pre-designed set of timings for intersections. There will also be real time data, similar to what you see on highways, to make better informed driving decisions.

As we mature as a city, that means our technology does as well. The plan is to provide you the best information available so you can make decisions that help ensure your trip from A to B is as efficient as possible.



In the community with Peel Regional Police and Peel Crime Prevention student speaking to residents about theft prevention in Park Royal.

Property Standards

Did you know that property owners are required to repair and maintain their property in accordance with the Property Standards By-law? This includes owners of residential rental properties, unless there is a specific agreement between the owner and tenants.

Some things that fall under the Property Standards By-law include:

- Ensuring structures, such as exterior walls, roofs and foundations are sound and free of water leaks and proper lighting.
- Ensuring that heating and plumbing are in good working order.
- Proper maintenance of driveways, walkways, ramps and parking areas by ensuring they are free from potholes, and ice and snow in the winter.
- Proper maintenance of yards ensuring they are kept in a reasonable condition and they are kept free of inoperative vehicles.

If a neighbour is not maintaining their property, residents can register a confidential complaint with By-law Enforcement. A Property Standards Officer will investigate the complaint and if a violation is found, the officer will issue a Property Standards Order, advising the owner of the violation and requiring it be fixed within a specified time period.

The owner has the right to appeal to the City's Property Standards Committee if they are not satisfied with the terms of the order.

If an owner fails to comply with a Property Standards Order, City staff will have the necessary repairs done. Any costs associated with the repairs will be applied to the tax rolls for the subject property.

The maximum fine for failing to comply with a Property Standards Order is \$25,000 for an individual and \$50,000 for a corporation.

For more information on Property Standards, visit mississauga.ca/portal/residents/propertystandards.

All About Waste

Increase in green bin usage

Thanks to your participation in Peel's bi-weekly garbage collection, we have significantly reduced the amount of waste being sent to landfill. Last year, we collected 60,000 tonnes of organic material! Nearly 70 per cent of Peel residents participate in the Organics program. This is up from the previous year in which we collected 30,000 tonnes of organic material and approximately 30 per cent of Peel residents participated in the Organics program.

Recycling reminders

- Place your recyclables into the bin loose; do not tie your recyclables in shopping bags.
- If you have lots of plastic shopping bags to dispose of, gather them up in one plastic shopping bag, tie that bag and put it in your recycling cart. A bag of bags is permitted.
- When in doubt, use Peel's handy online **Where Does It Go** waste sorter tool at peelregion.ca/waste.

When does it go?

Not sure when your next waste exemption period or battery collection is, or what happens to your collection around a holiday, or when weekly yard waste starts again? Check out the **When Does It Go** tool at peelregion.ca/waste.

Storage suggestions

If you live in a townhouse community, waste carts can be stored in your garage or outside of your garage. If you live in an end unit, you may also store your carts beside your house. If you're unsure about what to do, check out Mississauga's Property Standards bylaw at: mississauga.ca/bylaws.