

**Subject:** Re: Ward 3 Unionville Newsletter - January 2026  
**Date:** Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 5:39:31 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** MARTIN HIMELSON  
**To:** Reid McAlpine

Hi Reid,

Yes, I am in favour of stopping all parking on Main Street Unionville. There are many safety concerns that I have with regards to the parking on Main Street and it will be much safer with no cars being allowed to park there. Since there are no curbs on the street, when cars are trying to park they extent well into the walkway. Parked cars on Main Street also block the visibility of pedestrians who walk out to cross the street. Overall, parking on Main Street presents a safety concern. There are plenty of parking spaces behind the stores on the West side of the street, including Crosby Arena, for those who can not walk up the steps from the parking on the East Side. Possibly, more handicap parking on the West side of the street could be created for those individual who require supports.

Please feel free to use my name etc. when speaking to council etc. for supporting the parking ban on Main Street.

Thanks,

Martin

On Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 02:31:54 p.m. EST, Reid McAlpine <[reid@reidmcalpine.ca](mailto:reid@reidmcalpine.ca)> wrote:

Hi Martin,

The new strategy does not go into that level of detail. However it identifies certain places that will need their own, as yet undefined policies. Unionville is one of those.

Separately, I am working with the BIA to revisit the current allowance for on-boulevard parking on Main St. The BIA board there was firmly against it, but then at a meeting this week a couple of members started to question that position after comments from customers.

More work to do there, but assuming they maintain the whole board maintains its position at the next board meeting, I have a motion ready to go to council to direct staff to remove the parking.

Finally, can you confirm that you are indeed referring to parking on Main St? If so, can I append your email (along with several others) to my motion?

Thanks,

Reid

Reid

Reid McAlpine  
Councillor  
Ward 3, Unionville  
City of Markham

[rmcalpine@markham.ca](mailto:rmcalpine@markham.ca)  
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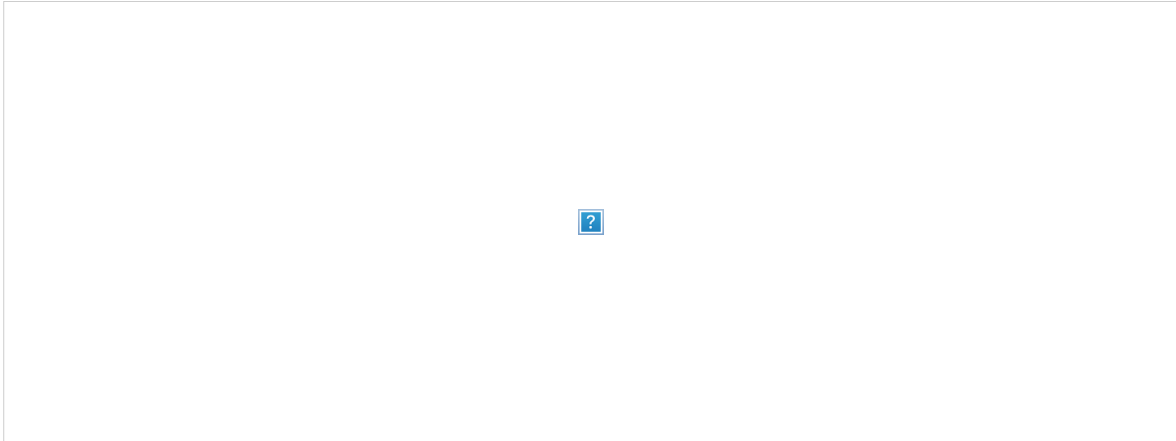
**From:** Martin <[mhimelson@rogers.com](mailto:mhimelson@rogers.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 25, 2026 2:18 PM  
**To:** Reid McAlpine <[reid@reidmcalpine.ca](mailto:reid@reidmcalpine.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Ward 3 Unionville Newsletter - January 2026

Hi Reid, after trying to read and make sense of the new parking rules, what does it mean for heritage Unionville Main Street? Will there still be

street parking, which I'm hoping there will not be?

Thanks,  
Martin

On Dec 31, 2025 3:36 p.m., "Reid McAlpine, Ward 3 Unionville" <[reid@reidmcalpine.ca](mailto:reid@reidmcalpine.ca)> wrote:



January 2026

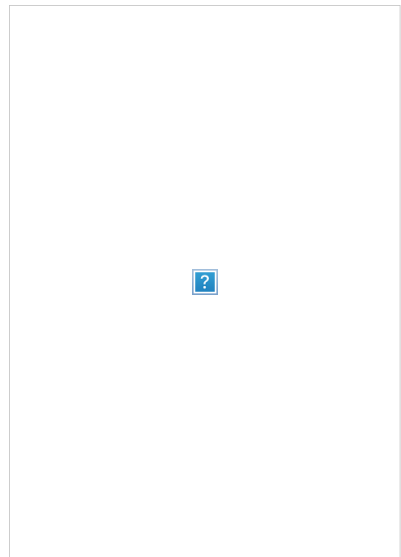
Dear Neighbour,

I trust that you and your loved ones have been able to take time for yourselves over the holiday season. Please accept my best wishes for a happy and productive New Year.

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There were more non-festive things going on in December than you might expect. Council approved a new high level **parking strategy** [here](#). I think it is fair to say that it will take quite some time -- years in some cases -- to develop the detailed regulations to implement the new policy. Apart from the area in and around the Unionville Heritage Conservation District, I don't think we should expect any significant changes.

With respect to the heritage district, I did manage to have a detailed parking strategy for Unionville moved from a long term goal to a short term goal in the final approval of the larger strategy. I will be working with city staff to craft consultations with all stakeholders to help address the heavy demand for parking around Main Street.



To no one's surprise, council approved the zoning for the first phase of the **Cadillac Fairview (CF) proposal for the Markville** mall parking lot. Ward 4 Councillor Rea and I voted against the proposal. It allows for 700 units as a sort of phase 1A. That will mean two towers near the corner of McCowan Road and Highway 7. The balance of phase 1 (1B) will be three more towers with another 1291 units. However CF will have to show that there is sufficient transportation and utility capacity to accommodate the new 1B towers. (There are also some standard holds relative to phase 1A but nothing that will slow the project down.) Heights of the 5 towers for phase 1 will range from 30 to 39 stories.

**Subject:** Unionville main street parking  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 2:27:15 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** sylvia@sylviamorris.com  
**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png

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Hi Reid,

I would like to oppose the parking on the east side on Main Street Unionville. It is already congested as it is, adding the interlock/street parking is not safe for pedestrians because they do not see how far they are onto the sidewalk when they are parking and it will ruin the work that the city did all of last year.

Thank you and have a great day!

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Sincerely,

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**Subject:** Citizen Concern

**Date:** Monday, January 12, 2026 at 10:22:44 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Daryl Wong

**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham

You don't often get email from [darylnwong@gmail.com](mailto:darylnwong@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Greetings Reid,

First off, congrats on the Unionville Main St. construction project. Looks a lot nicer and will definitely be worth it once summer hits.

Anyways, I live in Ward 3, specifically at Unionville Main Street, and have two issues. The first is being the new sidewalks, which were expanded at Main St, presumably to give more space for people to walk. Now, I am not sure if this was the intention, so correct if I'm wrong, but it has essentially become a parking space and blocks up most of the sidewalk, resulting in little space to walk. While there are "No Parking" signs, I don't think anyone has bothered paying attention.

Secondly, I am extremely concerned with the amount of bad drivers. To sum it up, if I made a dollar for every bad driver I saw, I would be quite a rich man. Many of the drivers, especially at night, fail to abide by stop signs and often zoom past or make incomplete stops. Sometimes, while I am crossing the road drivers will still make the decision to drive past on the crosswalk barely hitting me. On two separate occasions, drivers almost hit me head on despite the fact that I was crossing. Drivers who don't bother following the law have upticked, and while I would have kept quiet if it happened rarely, the fact that I am writing this email demonstrates the severity of this situation.

Anyways, thanks for reading all that, and I hope that something could be done to ensure the safety of all citizens at Ward 3.

Respectfully

Daryl

**Subject:** Parking On Main Street Unionville

**Date:** Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 10:30:21 AM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Lou Tucci

**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham

**CAUTION: This email originated from a source outside the City of Markham. DO NOT CLICK on any links or attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good day Mr. McAlpine.

I hope you enjoyed the holidays.

As you know, many of the local residents and businesses are very happy that Main Street is open to vehicles, however, many are upset that parking has been allowed on the east side.

Main Street is meant to be preserved as a beautiful and pedestrian-friendly area that reflects our town's heritage.

We were told that the sidewalk on the east side was made larger for pedestrians to enjoy more space to stroll along.

With cars parking there, there is often less space for pedestrians than before construction. For example, I witnessed a couple having to lean up against a parked car to allow a woman with a baby carriage to pass...this is absurd!

It's also an eyesore and completely undermines the \$11MM effort to beautify the street. Imagine walking on the West side and looking over to the east side shops to see cars instead?....many of which are dirty or left running during the winter.

It's definitely a significant safety risk as cars are swinging over to park where people are walking, and, we all know,

that many people do not parallel park very well.... putting walkers at risk and/or leaving their cars half parked on the sidewalk and road.....a new road that scarcely allows two cars/trucks to pass each other as it is.

Allowing cars to park along this iconic street not only detracts from its historic charm but also disrupts the aesthetic and atmosphere that make it special.

Visitors and residents alike come to enjoy its architecture, ambiance and sense of place....parking cars along the street definitely undermines all of these qualities.

I respectfully urge the City to reconsider this senseless policy and to preserve the integrity and beauty of our historic Main Street.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Lou Tucci

416 587 7136

**Subject:** Re: Ward 3 Unionville Newsletter - December 2025  
**Date:** Sunday, January 4, 2026 at 4:04:10 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** Martin  
**To:** Reid McAlpine

Hi Reid,  
Happy New Year. I hope you and your family have a wonderful 2026.

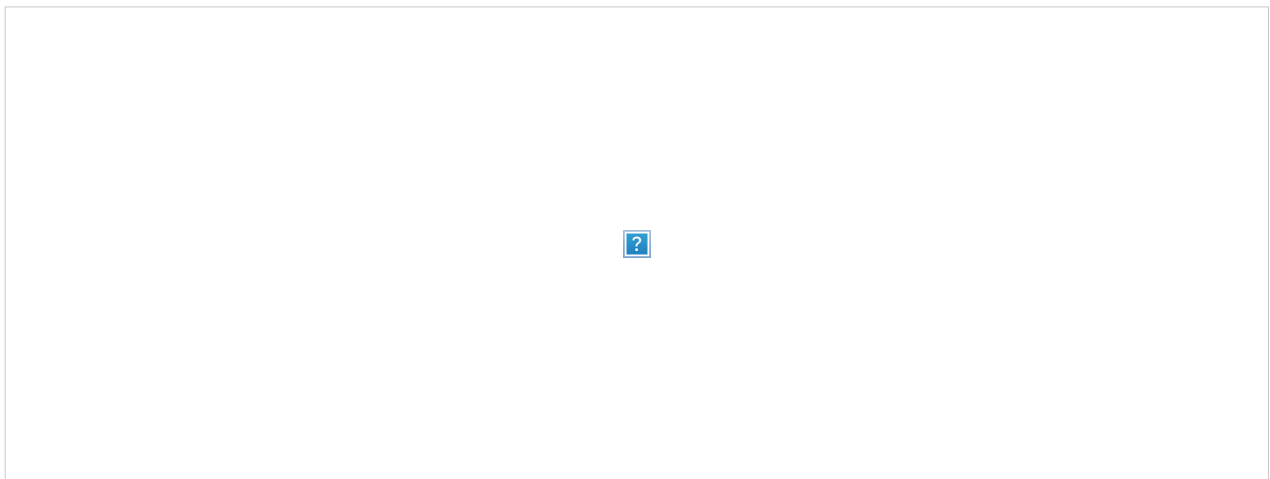
Is there anything I can do to remove parking from Main Street Unionville? The layout, of no curbs on the parking side created a very unsafe and troubling situation. I would like to explore several options.

1. No parking at all on Main Street from Fred Varley to Carlton.
2. Only handicap parking on Main street from Fred Varley to Carlton.
3. Close Main Street to all car traffic, between Fred Varley and Carlton, during the months of July and August.

How would one go about bringing this to City council?

Thanks,  
Martin

On Dec 2, 2025 10:25 p.m., "Reid McAlpine, Ward 3 Unionville" <[reid@reidmcalpine.ca](mailto:reid@reidmcalpine.ca)> wrote:



November 2025

Dear Neighbour,

I trust that you and your family are looking forward to enjoying the upcoming holiday season. I haven't looked at the weather forecast too far ahead, but by current conditions we may actually be able to enjoy a white Christmas (or Hannukkah or Kwanza).

The November Development Services Committee (DSC) and Council meetings dealt with a number of important issues, though some were also deferred:

**Subject:** Unionville Main Street Parking Suggestions

**Date:** Tuesday, December 23, 2025 at 4:54:21 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Michael Wong

**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham

You don't often get email from [myk.wong@gmail.com](mailto:myk.wong@gmail.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Dear Reid McAlpine,

As a long time resident of Unionville since 1987, I have been very excited about the recent construction and renovation of Unionville Main Street. I love Unionville having grown up here and still reside here having had the chance to raise my own family just minutes away from my childhood home.

I was excited seeing the early changes to the pedestrian areas, especially the widening of the walkways and the flush curb to the road which promotes easy foot access. The pedestrian friendly changes are very welcome to our unfortunately car centric infrastructure.

But to my dismay, the recent partial reopening of main street has revealed a major issue. Street parking along Main street should not be allowed and the haphazard way certain sections of the pedestrian walkways are being allocated for car parking creates dangerous pedestrian interactions with automobiles and squeezes foot traffic into narrower spaces which defeats the entire redesign.

I think we can all agree that Unionville Main St is more beautiful and more enjoyable with crowds and foot traffic abound. It promotes shopping and draws people to the businesses. By making Unionville Main St less friendly and more dangerous to pedestrians by allowing parking along it, we all miss out on a great opportunity to enhance our shared spaces while catering to single drivers riding in giant SUVs who think an extra 10-20 seconds walking from the rear parking lot is a "major inconvenience".

I hope the City of Markham will reconsider parking directly on Unionville Main Street and restrict it permanently.

Thank you for your attention

Michael Wong  
30 Stanford Road  
Unionville, Ontario  
L3R6M2

**Subject:** Re: Ward 3 Unionville Newsletter - January 2026

**Date:** Wednesday, December 31, 2025 at 4:40:56 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** Jenny Tung

**To:** Reid McAlpine

Hi Reid,

Thank you for all that you do for our community!

Regarding the parking on Unionville Main street, I've seen parking on the sidewalk portion on both the east and west side of the street.

It feels a little unsafe given there's barely a curb separating the street from the road. Anything you can do to keep the sidewalks car free would be much appreciated!

Have a great New Year!

Jenny

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**From:** Reid McAlpine, Ward 3 Unionville <[reid@reidmcalpine.ca](mailto:reid@reidmcalpine.ca)>

**Sent:** December 31, 2025 3:36 PM

**To:** [jenny\\_w\\_tung@hotmail.com](mailto:jenny_w_tung@hotmail.com) <[jenny\\_w\\_tung@hotmail.com](mailto:jenny_w_tung@hotmail.com)>

**Subject:** Ward 3 Unionville Newsletter - January 2026

**Subject:** Re: Parking Concerns Main Street Unionville  
**Date:** Monday, March 9, 2026 at 4:20:50 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time  
**From:** Tracey Rehel  
**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham  
**Attachments:** image002.png, image001.png

Wonderful. Thank you. I'm in favor of not allowing any parking at all on the street but wanted to be reasonable in my request. Honestly I truly feel it is a safer option not to allow any parking at all.

I will keep an eye out for the signs. I haven't noticed myself, but the next time I go for a walk I'll be sure to be on the lookout for them. Maybe larger signs might be a possible solution, but it could be I just missed them myself all altogether.

Appreciate your quick response to my concern.

Many thanks,  
Tracey

On Mon, Mar 9, 2026 at 3:11 PM Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham  
<[RMcAlpine@markham.ca](mailto:RMcAlpine@markham.ca)> wrote:

Thanks for reaching out Tracey. In fact parking is limited to only the east side of Main Street. There are "No Parking" signs all along the west side. It is an enforcement issue. We simply can't have bylaw enforcement officers there all the time. Nonetheless I will remind them of the problem.

By the way, we are also working to remove parking on the east side as well.

Reid

Reid McAlpine

Councillor

Ward 3, Unionville

City of Markham

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Customer Service

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905 477 5530



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**From:** Tracey Rehel <[traceyrehel22@gmail.com](mailto:traceyrehel22@gmail.com)>

**Date:** Monday, March 9, 2026 at 12:47 PM

**To:** Councillor, Reid McAlpine - Markham <[rmcalpine@markham.ca](mailto:rmcalpine@markham.ca)>

**Subject:** Parking Concerns Main Street Unionville

**CAUTION:** This email originated from a source outside the City of Markham. DO NOT CLICK on any links or attachments, or reply unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**Dear Councillor McAlpine,**

**I am writing to raise a safety concern about parking along Main Street in Unionville, particularly on the side opposite Starbucks.**

**Since the reconstruction of Main Street, the area has become a wonderful place to walk and spend time. The streetscape looks great and the sidewalks are well used by residents and visitors. That is why the current parking situation stands out as a concern.**

**Parking along the Starbucks side of the street works reasonably well. The issue arises when cars also park on the opposite side. When both sides are occupied, the roadway becomes very narrow, and vehicles travelling through the street often pass extremely close to pedestrians walking on the sidewalk. On several occasions I have had cars come up beside me at a speed and distance that made me feel genuinely uncomfortable about my safety.**

**Given the amount of public investment that went into reconstructing Main Street, it seems unfortunate that a design or policy choice could create a situation where pedestrians feel exposed to traffic. Main Street is one of the**

**most pedestrian-heavy areas in Unionville, and it should feel safe and relaxed for people walking there.**

**There is also a practical solution available. There is already a significant amount of parking behind the restaurants and shops, which many visitors use. Limiting parking to one side of Main Street would likely improve safety without meaningfully reducing access for customers.**

**I would appreciate it if the City could review this situation and consider whether parking should be restricted to one side of the street in this section. Even a pilot or temporary adjustment could help determine whether it improves safety and pedestrian comfort.**

**Thank you for taking the time to consider this concern.**

**Sincerely,  
Tracey Rehel**