



Older Adult Strategy (OAS) 2020 Update

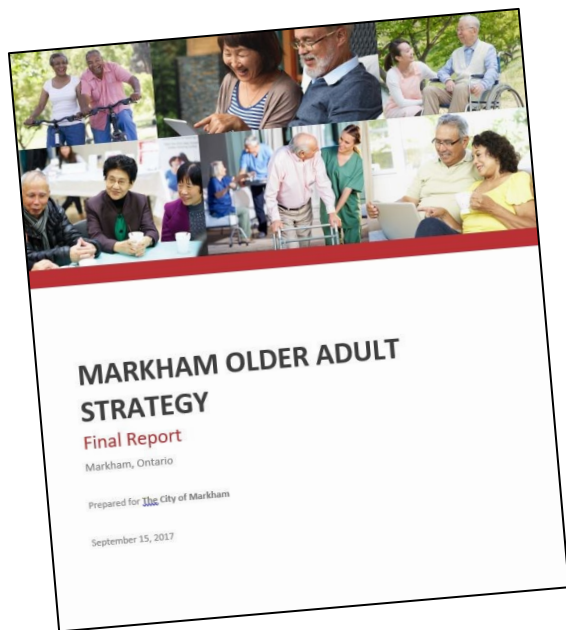


Agenda

- Older Adult Strategy Background
- Age Friendly Communities
- Status of Priorities/Actions
- Q&A



What is the Older Adult Strategy



1. Establish goals, outcomes and recommended actions based on community input to make Markham an **Age-Friendly Community**
2. Standardize the definition of older adults across all City departments to “All Residents who are **65+ years of age**”
3. Explore an **Ability to Pay model** that would be used to determine eligibility for subsidized service based on resident’s needs and financial capacity to pay for programs and services



What is an Age Friendly Community

- Age-friendly communities promote healthy active aging by delivering policies, programs, services and spaces that help residents maintain their independence as they age (*Ontario Seniors' Secretariat, 2015*)
- Age-friendly communities share the following principles:
 - Recognize the wide range of capacities and resources of older adults
 - Flexibly respond to aging-related needs and preferences
 - Promote participation and contribution to community life
 - Respect lifestyle choices of older adults
 - Support vulnerable older adults



The OAS has focused on the following six dimensions of 'age friendly communities' :



Community Support Services



Outdoor Spaces & Buildings



Social Participation



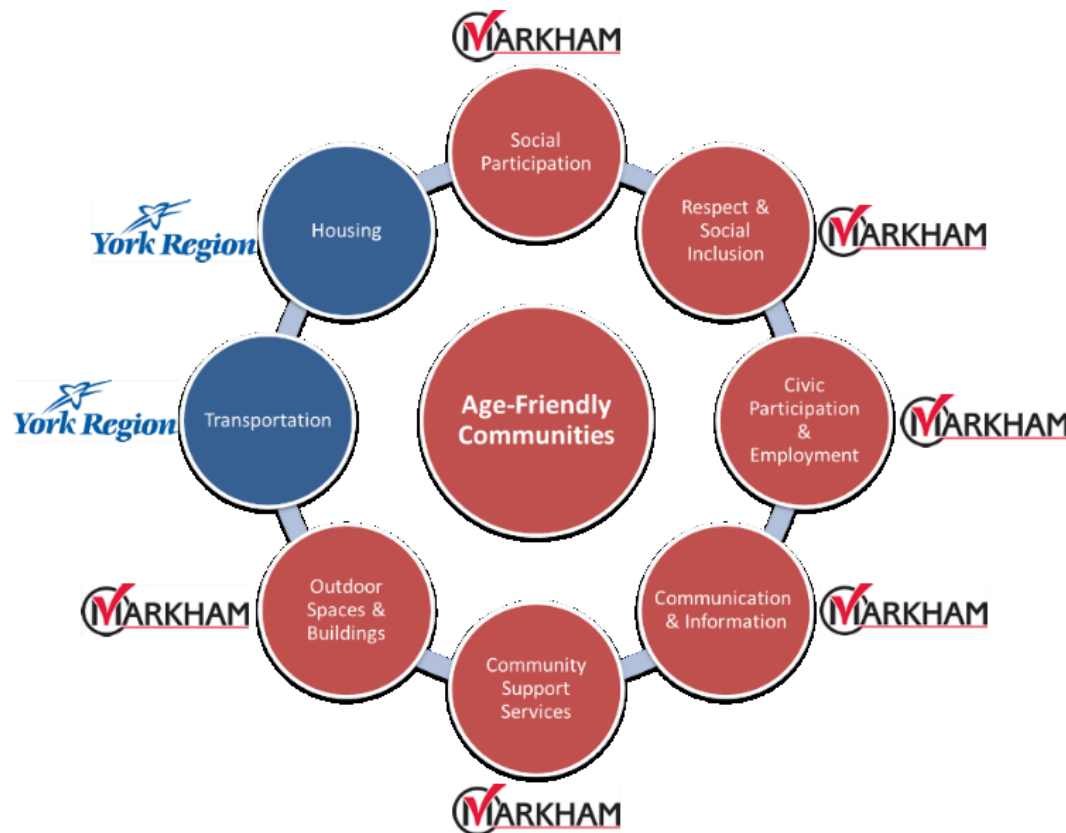
Respect & Social Inclusion



Civic Participation & Employment



Communication & Information





BUILDING MARKHAM'S FUTURE TOGETHER

2020 – 2023 Strategic Plan



COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

- 3 OUTCOMES
- 6 ACTIONS



OUTDOOR SPACES & BUILDINGS

- 3 OUTCOMES
- 8 ACTIONS



SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

- 4 OUTCOMES
- 15 ACTIONS



RESPECT & SOCIAL INCLUSION

- 4 OUTCOMES
- 6 ACTIONS



CIVIC PARTICIPATION & EMPLOYMENT

- 2 OUTCOMES
- 3 ACTIONS



COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

- 4 OUTCOMES
- 11 ACTIONS

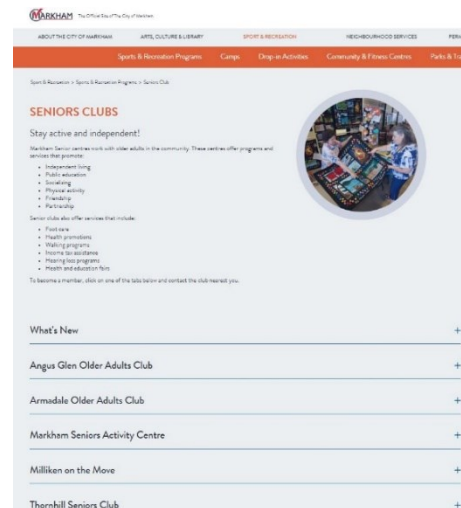


Community Support Services

GOAL: The City of Markham will work collaboratively with local agencies, community organizations, private businesses, citizens and other community partners to ensure that a broad range of community support services are available across Markham



Celebrate
Markham





Community Support Services

Highlights:

- **Completed** – Databases compiled of senior services and seniors groups which is used to connect local senior groups with local and provincial grant opportunities and used to solicit feedback through surveys opportunities.
- **Ongoing** - The Celebrate Markham Seniors Club funding stream provides \$40,000 annually to local agencies and senior clubs to support programming and services to older adults in the community.



Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

GOAL: The City for Markham will ensure that there is equitable access to City roads, trails, pathways, parks and facilities for older adult residents through the implementation of sustainable community planning and infrastructure management





Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

- **Ongoing** - There are a total of 2,139 benches of which 85% have been upgraded. Conversion continues through lifecycle program.
- **Completed** – Improvements to park areas for shade and seating are being undertaken through lifecycle replacements, park renaissance program and through new park design.
 - Tree canopies planted in 8 parks, along playgrounds and trails to provide relief for users. Another 8 parks will receive additional tree canopies in 2020
 - Installation of new shaded structure along with additional seating nodes at Armadale C.C and the New Cornell Community Park & Box Grove Community Park is designed with seating nodes with shade



Social Participation

GOAL: The City of Markham will encourage social participation and community engagement by delivering programs and services that reflect the dynamic needs and expectations of older adult residents





Social Participation

- **Completed** - Coordination with 5 older adult clubs in the delivery of new recreational programs for older adults at City operated facilities during the daytime and evening. (IE: Angus Glen Older Adults Club – Filmmaking, MOTM – Chinese Calligraphy, etc.)
- **Completed** - Developed a new identification system for programs for Older Adult programs that indicates if the program is “Active” or “Passive” programming to help older adults of all physical and cognitive abilities to make appropriate selections
- **Completed** - Installed signage for adult exercise equipment in local parks: Simonston Park, John Button Park, Monarch Park, Alma Walker Park, E.B.F. Robinson Park, Wismer Park, Featherstone Park, Highgate Park



Respect and Social Inclusion

GOAL: The City of Markham will promote respect and social inclusion for older adult residents of by embracing diversity inclusivity and compassion, in order to create a more interconnected community.





Respect and Social Inclusion

- **Ongoing** –Seniors Focused Events undertaken: Annual Canada Day Senior's Luncheon, Seniors Chinese New Year, Armadale Senior's Club Diwali, Seniors Art Show at Thornhill Seniors Club
- **Completed** – Implemented new events: 2019 Seniors Health Fair and 2018 Crafts Fair at Aaniin C.C.



Respect & Social Inclusion – 2019 Events



Canada Day
Senior's Luncheon

2019 Seniors
Health Fair at
Aaniin C.C.

2018 Seniors
Health Fair at
Cornell C.C.

2018 Crafts Fair at
Aaniin C.C.

AGOAC Chinese
New Year
Celebration

MOTM Chinese
New Year
Celebration



Annual Armadale
Older Adults Club
Diwali event

2019 Seniors Art
Show at Thornhill
Seniors Club



Civic Participation & Employment

GOAL: The City of Markham will demonstrate leadership with respect to employment and volunteerism by identifying opportunities for older adult residents to work/volunteer with the City and community partners to make a meaningful impact in the local community





Civic Participation & Employment

- **Completed** - Provision of Emergency First Aid + AED training for volunteers in local senior clubs.
- **Ongoing** - Implementation of intergenerational programs and opportunities (IE: Aaniin C.C. partnership with Middlefield Seniors Club – senior volunteers in indoor playground program for preschoolers)



Communication & Information

- New dedicated older adults website to be launched in Fall 2020 will include the following functions (delayed due to COVID19) :
 - Centralize municipal information resources
 - Listing of local and regional community service agencies
 - A search feature that will allow older adults to find information easily
 - Program schedule for City programs and the 5 older adult clubs



Conclusions

- Implementation commenced in 2018 of the 10 year plan
- Corporate wide coordination with all departments involved in direct service to seniors and with those designing and developing new communities
- Dialogue with older adults continues on the implementation of the actions
- Progress is being made within the 6 Focus Areas of OAS
- Annual reporting of status will continue.



Q&A