



MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Markham Committee

FROM: Regan Hutcheson, Manager-Heritage Planning

DATE: November 11, 2020

SUBJECT: Notes and Recommendation – Unionville Sub-Committee of Heritage Markham
Streetscape Furniture – Main Street Unionville
Unionville Heritage Conservation District

Project: Investigation of Appropriate Bistro Style Furniture for Public Area(s) on Main Street Unionville

Background:

- Request from Operations Staff for Heritage Section staff feedback. Staff indicated that it would also welcome any feedback from Heritage Markham prior to submission of a future Heritage Permit application.
- The purpose is to clarify what would be acceptable heritage appropriate furniture for the Main St Unionville area in terms of a bistro type set. It has been requested to have bistro type tables and chairs available on the newly improved stair area, among others, in the Unionville Heritage Conservation District.
- At the October 14, 2020 Heritage Markham meeting, the Committee indicated that authority to review and provide recommendations on behalf of Heritage Markham on preferred options for bistro-style street furniture for public areas on Main Street Unionville be delegated to a sub-committee of the following members: Councillor Reid McAlpine, Doug Denby, David Nesbitt, Lake Trevelyan and Jason McCauley.

Status/ Staff Comment

- The notes and recommendation on behalf of Heritage Markham Committee from the Unionville Patio/Streetscape Furniture Sub-Committee have been provided to Operations staff.

Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham

That Heritage Markham Committee receive the Meeting Notes/Recommendation from the Unionville Patio/Streetscape Furniture Sub-Committee as information.

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Unionville Patio/Streetscape Furniture Sub-Committee

MEETING NOTES

Thursday, October 22, 2020, 6-7pm

Location: Zoom Meeting

Members Present:

Councillor Reid McAlpine (Chair)
Doug Denby
David Nesbitt
Lake Trevelyan
Jason McCauley

Staff:

Regan Hutcheson, Manager-Heritage
Planning

ITEM 1: **Project:** **Unionville Heritage District Patio/Streetscape Furniture**
 Owner: **City of Markham**
 Address: **Parkette Area - Main Street (East Side) –Top of Stairs and**
 potentially other public areas
 District: **Unionville Heritage Conservation District**

At the October 14, 2020 Heritage Markham meeting, the Committee indicated that authority to review and provide recommendations on behalf of Heritage Markham on preferred options for bistro-style street furniture for public areas on Main Street Unionville be delegated to a sub-committee of the following members: Councillor Reid McAlpine, Doug Denby, David Nesbitt, Lake Trevelyan and Jason McCauley.

The Chair of the sub-committee, Councillor McAlpine, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and provided a brief overview of the matters to be discussed.

Mr. Denby had previously circulated through email a proposed motion to only consider the use of benches in these areas. It was agreed to consider this motion at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Denby moved the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Nesbitt. Those in favour of this motion noted that benches have been in use for a number of years in Unionville, they are generally complementary to the area, and they allow people to congregate, rest and consume food. Comments expressed in opposition to the introduction of tables/chairs included a concern with the associated table garbage and cleaning, vandalism/theft (how to secure the infrastructure), and not being reflective of the village's heritage character. Staff noted that benches are the common type of street furniture used in our heritage conservation districts and the black bench found in Unionville was the bench style approved for use.

Those in opposition to the motion indicated that the concept of table and chairs was supportable for the following reasons:

- There seems to be local community support for the concept according to the local councillor;
- The introduction of tables and chairs is becoming more common in public spaces elsewhere and creates a more humane/ friendlier streetscape. Allows better social interaction between people;
- People can use tables for eating, chatting and playing games (chess), and like benches, these tables and chairs would provide a space that is free to use where no purchase is necessary;

- Based on the approved vision plan for Main Street, the area is changing from a traditional village to an area where more place-making will occur. Tables and chairs attract tourists and locals; and
- This could function as a pilot project to see if the concept works.

Motion:

Moved by D. Denby

Seconded by D. Nesbitt

Whereas the Unionville Heritage Conservation Plan provides guidelines and examples of streetscape furniture that are benches, the Unionville Patio/Streetscape Furniture Sub-Committee of the Markham Heritage Committee recommends and endorses the practice of using the approved heritage style metal benches within the Unionville Main Street business core, and in particular, in the mini parkette at the top of the city's stair case to the lower parking area, as has been the practice for the past few decades.

Motioned Failed

Councillor McAlpine continued the meeting by reviewing the four furniture options on which the Operations staff was seeking guidance. Members noted that whatever was selected, the product needs to be of a commercial grade, durable and complementary. The surface of the tables should drain water, and there appeared to be a preference for round versus square tables. The members also noted that a three-legged table was easier to level than one with four legs.

Each option was reviewed (see attached for illustrations). There was no support for Option 1 or Option 4 from a heritage perspective. Although Option 2 was considered attractive, there was concern about the durability of the chairs. Option 3 was considered more durable and compatible, however, the table appeared to be too large. It was suggested that a smaller table similar to Option 2 and durable chairs reflective of Option 3 may be appropriate.

A member asked if there were other locations where these type of tables and chairs may be introduced. It was indicated that another site could be in the courtyard in front of the art gallery.

The Sub-Committee approved the following recommendation on behalf of the Heritage Markham Committee:

Heritage Markham Recommendation:

THAT in reviewing the various options for patio/streetscape furniture (tables and chairs) forwarded by the Operations Department for comment, Heritage Markham has the following feedback:

- No support for Options 1 and 4 from a heritage perspective;
- Round tables similar to or in keeping with the spirit of Option 2 are preferred; and
- Chairs similar to or keeping with the spirit of Option 3 are preferred.

AND THAT this matter return to the Heritage Markham Committee when a Heritage Permit Application is submitted.

Carried

The Sub-Committee was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

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Furniture for Unionville Heritage Conservation District

Purpose: to clarify what would be acceptable heritage approved furniture for the Main St Unionville area in terms of a bistro type set. It has been requested to have bistro type tables and chairs available on the newly improved stair area, among others, in the Unionville Heritage Conservation District.

Option 1



CAMINO SERIES - ARM CHAIR - BLACK WEAVE INSERT

CM320N

This Camino Series arm chair is stackable and utilizes a polyethylene seat and back panel (black color only). Choose any of our AAMA 2604-05 compliant powder-coatings for the framework color.



Option 2



The Parc Centre chair is a clever riff on the Parisian outdoor standard, offering comfort with a pleasing bounce. Parc Centre chairs, tables, lounge and ottoman comfortably support social activities in formal and informal settings alike. Steel construction coupled with economy of form make them nimble enough to move around and heavy enough to hold their ground. Sled bases are stable on grass, gravel or hard surfaces. Seats have a pleasing bounce. Chairs, lounges and ottomans stack.

- The frame of Parc Centre is formed of heavy steel wire.
- Powdercoated seating is offered armless, or with arms, is lightweight and stacks horizontally.
- The seat and back panels are constructed of welded steel straps.
- Stacking bumper/glides are made of tough nylon to resist damage from dragging on rough surfaces.





Parc Centre
designed by
John Rizzi.

About John Rizzi

Parc Centre chairs, tables, lounge and ottoman comfortably support social activities in formal and informal settings alike. Steel construction coupled with economy of form make them nimble enough to move around and heavy enough to hold their ground. Park Centre table's round and square shapes expand the options for versatile social settings. Its sleek top reads like a fine line but provides the strength and durability of solid steel. Leveling glides on the steel plate base make it stable on varied surfaces.

Option 3



- Table Top Size: 35.5" Dia. (90.2cm Dia.)
- Bench Size: 23" (58.4cm)
- ADA Compliant
- Galvanized Steel Construction
- Framing is H.S. Steel Tube / Flatbar
- Number of Seats: 4

CAT-050 is a metal picnic table set with a perforated surface to avoid precipitation accumulation. Great use for restaurant patio or temporary outdoor patio. Heavyweight and low maintenance, easy assembly and no mounting required.

Galvanized steel frame is shielded with powder coat finish to prevent rust and weather elements. Bench and table corners are beveled for safety. Mounting tabs allow anchoring to the ground for stability and security. Table

CAT-050 is constructed with steel.

Steel components are electrocoated with anti-corrosion treatment, and finished with powder coating electrostatically.

Option 4



A composite set that is available in black for a reasonable price. The composite material is fairly heavy and sturdy so that the City would not have to worry about theft as much as the smaller metal ones at double the cost.