

## Canada Healthy Communities Initiative Summary of Proposed Markham Projects

### **Project: Franklin Carmichael Park – Multi Purpose Outdoor Hard Surface**

**Attachment: See detailed proposal attached separately**

Construct a multi-purpose outdoor hard surface court to accommodate sports, including basketball, ball hockey and four square-- spring through fall -- with the ability to easily convert the space and/or a portion of it to a large outdoor ice rink in winter.

Thornhill's Franklin Carmichael Park, located at 277 Green Lane, is a 2.02 hectare (5 acre) grassed residential area park with a soccer field, small playground and parking lot. It serves a community of approximately 4,103 single family homes with 11,500 residents\* (\*Average Ontario family size, 2018: 2.9) in the eastern part of Ward 1.

Support this Thornhill community by making better use of this public park by adapting a small portion of it as a means of responding to the ongoing needs of residents arising from COVID-19. Increase use of this park and create a safer, more vibrant and inclusive community that brings people together in a meaningful way for physical exercise while building community spirit, collaboration and well-being.

### **Project: Kirkham Community Allotment Garden Expansion & Pilot Food Forest for South Markham**

**Attachment: See Community Group Proposal on Food Forest attached separately**

Some facts about food security:

Prior to the Pandemic

- 1 / 8 Canadian households experienced food security issues
- In York Region = 24,700 households (7%) affected
- Food insecurity disproportionately affects black & indigenous households

In 2021 Canadians will pay an extra \$695 (3-5% increase) for food on average  
Research indicates that the pandemic & climate change are key factors

The current form of Kirkham is essentially a pilot project that began in 2014 with minor enhancements. Markham has yet to move ahead with the original concept for a larger scale garden program built out on this property. There is an ongoing waitlist each season (4-8 names), but over 2020/21 the waiting list for garden plots has significantly increased (currently at 30 households). Phase 1 expansion of Kirkham Garden: 25 additional plots, with fence and a composting area.

This proposal also makes the case for a public, accessible, and local food forest on City property in partnership with a youth-led, volunteer-run residents' group.

Food insecurity is a growing concern facing our communities, and it is incumbent on us as a community to institute solutions to ensure no resident is left behind. The food forest is an effective garden solution that offers a return on investment in different fields like food access, environmental benefits, social equity and community engagement. We are proposing to partner with the City of Markham to plant the South Markham Food Forest and to see it come into fruition.

#### **Project: CN Railroad Bridge Public Art Project**

**Attachment: See detailed community proposal attached separately**

The beautification for the two rail bridges located at Hwy. 48 and 14th Ave. Visual Art students from UHS (nearest public arts school) and Middlefield Collegiate Institute (nearest public high school) will participate in the design process working with their teachers, Shane Clodd and Sandra Liao, and a diverse group of professional guest artists.

#### **Project: Pop Up Park Program**

**Staff Proposed Project**

This successful program provided much-needed outdoor activities to Markham residents last year. The project proposes a program that would offer 1.5 – 2 hours Recreation based programs in local parks across Markham for children ages 5 -12. There would be 20 Pop Park programs per day (10 each morning and afternoon). The teams would consist of part time summer students who would travel throughout the city to designated park locations. The program would be pre-registered and there would be a nominal fee (\$2 per day) for registration, last year's program was free but we had a lot of no shows.

#### **Project: Pedestrian cross-overs (PXO)**

**Staff Proposed Project**

Level 2 Type D pedestrian cross-overs will be installed at 25 elementary school locations with adjacent community amenities, such as playground, parks, and sports fields. These permanent installations create safer road crossing conditions for families and their children to access the school and adjacent amenities.

#### **Project: Sunday Street Closure**

**Staff Proposed Project**

Sunday closures on a street to support local community active lifestyle programming during Summer months. It will help showcase local talent and amenities. Building upon the Enterprise Blvd road closures in 2020, this project is planned to become an annual event. Example - Unionville Main Street slow street - this project consists of traffic calming measures and expansion of the street boulevards to create a calmer and safer condition for pedestrians and cyclists during Summer. This Main Street is a busy tourist attraction during the Summer months. This builds upon similar measures applied in 2020 and is to become an annual occurrence.

## Summary Table

Project Name	Funder's Requirements						Project Budget*
	Needs arising from COVID	Public space or programming in public spaces	Community engaged in project	General public or groups impacted by COVID-19	Complete budget	Funders Theme	
Franklin Carmichael Park – Multi Purpose Outdoor Hard Surface	Yes	Public Space	Yes	General Public	Yes	Safe and vibrant Public Space	\$250,000*
Kirkham Community Allotment Garden Expansion & Pilot Food Forest in South Markham	Yes	Public Space	Yes	General Public	Yes	Safe and vibrant Public Space	\$250,000*
CN Railroad Bridge Public Art Project	Yes	Public Space	Yes	General Public	Yes	Safe and vibrant Public Space	\$40,000*
Pop up Park Program	Yes	Programming in public space	Yes	Groups – youth	Yes	Safe and vibrant Public Space	\$178,000
Install PXOs (ladder crosswalks and signage)	Yes	Programming in public space	Yes	General Public	Yes	Improved Mobility Options	\$75,000
Sunday street closures from June to September	Yes	Programming in public space	Yes	General Public	Yes	Improved Mobility Options	\$75,000

\*Budget: One time construction cost – but does not include lifecycle impacts and annualize operating and maintenance costs.