



**Minutes from the Main Street Markham Committee meeting  
held on September 21, 2016**

**City of Markham  
Canada Room- Civic Centre**

Members

Councillor Karen Rea, Chair  
Jason Bebee  
Siobhán Covington  
Graham Dewar  
Phil Howes  
Jason McCauley  
Dianne More  
Jennifer Peters-Morales  
Churchill Piggott  
Peter Ross  
Harvey Thomson  
Tanya-Kay Melbourne

Regrets

Councillor Colin Campbell, Vice Chair  
Paul Cicchini  
Ardy Reid  
Gunter Langhorst  
Christine Matthews

Staff

Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning  
Alan Brown, Director of Engineering  
Christina Lee, Committee Secretary

The meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee convened at 5:54PM with Councillor Karen Rea in the Chair.

**1. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

None declared.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda**

- a) Add Vinegar Hill Parkette to Item 10
- b) Update on Signage in Parked Items
- c) Councilor Rea has an item of New Business

**3. Adoption of the Minutes of the June 15, 2016, Meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee**

Moved by            Jason Bebee  
Seconded by        Peter Ross

That the Minutes of the Main Street Markham Committee meeting held on June 15, 2016 be adopted as distributed.

Carried

#### **4. Main Street Markham Road Re-Construction**

Peter Ross provided an update to the construction on Main Street Markham. The information is from discussions he has had with Mr. Dereje Tafesse of the Engineering Department.

##### **a) Deficiency List Main Street Markham South**

Mr. Tafesse met with the Contractor, Dagmar Construction in July to review the deficiencies previously identified. It was reported that very little had been accomplished over the summer. The extra double line has been ground and a single line has been painted but other items, such as a remediation of the former works site office and removal of an iron Power Stream bar have not been done. Mr. Tafesse continues to press Dagmar to ameliorate the deficiencies. Dagmar has undertaken to spray terraseed – a mixture of soil and grass seed at the former worksite and to weed again the entrance island at Main & Hwy 7. Apparently Dagmar views this entrance island as a maintenance issue as no plantings were designed for this location. Mr. Tafesse will contact Urban Design regarding this issue. He will also press the consultants, MMM, to approach Power Stream to remove the protruding iron bar. The deficiency list is being reviewed with another walkthrough inspection to be conducted in October. Many of the plantings installed by Dagmar have died and Mr. Tafesse will liaise with Urban Design regarding the replacement of the plantings which are under a 2 year guarantee.

Additionally, the serious issues of getting traffic to merge coming northbound on Main Street South and the James Scott intersection may be addressed by the installation of “candles” by Traffic Operations. These are 8 sticks of about a metre high that are flexible to allow a bus or emergency vehicles to pass over them but provide a demarcation of the traffic lane. Despite some initial adaption issues with some candles being broken and replaced, the implementation of the candles appears to be helping with traffic merging earlier.

Members discussed that the candles are of some help but there continues to be issues e.g. the merging for Hwy 407-

##### **b) Deficiency List Main Street North – Pavers and Old Hydro Poles**

Mr. Ross advised that the pavers are proposed to be removed and replaced with asphalt and the crosswalk pavers removed and replaced with patterned asphalt. This work is a part of the City's 2017 Budget which is presently under review. On approval, the work would be scheduled for 2017.

Staff was not aware that the old hydro poles had not been removed and have requested Mr. Ross provide specific information as to their locations.

Councillor Rea advised that she has e-mails of the old hydro pole locations which she can provide to Engineering.

Councillor Rea also advised that when the pavers are removed, remedial work will be done to

a property owner's driveway as it will be impacted by the changes.

Councillor Rea advised that she would submit a Councillor's Request to Council regarding the triangle at James Scott to be remedied in a manner which would not require regular maintenance such as grass cutting as the grass currently there is not being cut regularly.

## **5. Parking Issues in Markham Village**

Churchill Piggott enquired regarding the replacement of parking signage which Mr. Hutcheson had previously reported as having been removed as they were directional and outdated. It had previously been explained to the Members that replacing the signage would require a capital expenditure of \$10,000 which was being included in the 2017 Capital Budget. Mr. Piggott enquired as to whether there was any update on the 2017 Budget and whether it will be approved.

Mr. Hutcheson advised that the 2017 Capital Budget was under review by staff and Council with a targeted approval date of December 13, 2016.

Councillor Rea advised that she is trying to alleviate the area parking issues by working to regain the parking that has been allocated to the Guild. She is working on discussions with local businesses including a very busy medical practice.

It was confirmed that the majority of the spaces in the parking near the Royal Bank belong to the branch but there are 20 public spaces in the lot. Poor signage has made it very difficult for people to identify which spaces are for bank customers' use and which are public spaces. A further complication is the report that the building owner has sent notices to all day parking lot users to obtain a parking badge or be towed.

A member enquired whether there were discussions with the church to use their parking. Councillor Rea advised those discussions are ongoing.

The members requested that Mr. Hutcheson provide an update on his memorandum of April 2016 at the next meeting.

Parking Issues in Markham Village will be moved to the "Parked Items List" to allow Councillor Rea more time to hold her discussions with various parties and is able to provide the Committee with an update.

## **6. Tender for Island at 16th and Main Street North**

There was no new information to provide at this time. Mr. Hutcheson will provide an update on the next Committee meeting.

## **7. Cigarette Disposal Waste Container**

Councillor Rea confirmed to the Committee that current legislation prevents the installation of any cigarette disposal containers within 9 metres of any building entrance/exit so it will not be

possible to proceed with the Committee's intent to install receptacles on Main Street for the intent of reducing litter from cigarette butts. As such this item will be tabled until further notice.

## **8. Donald Cousens Parkway Extension**

Mr. Ross asked that the Motion passed April 20, 2016 by this Committee be forwarded to the Regional Councillors of Markham. The motion asked for the extension of the DCP be reviewed in 2017. The DCP does not connect to Hwy 48 and discussion has been deferred at the Regional level to 2025 in which case, it could be years beyond 2025 before action to complete the extension is taken.

Members discussed the importance of the completion of the DCP as a pivotal piece of traffic construction to relieve congestion for Main Street and all of Markham. It was acknowledged that Markham Council has been trying to get York Region to prioritize this project. The members understand that a bridge is required for a portion of the extension. Councillor Rea advised that she had previously been advised by Alan Brown, former Director of Engineering, that soil issues were delaying the bridge being built. Mr. Ross advised that Mr. Brown had also thought that the soil could be ready by 2018.

Following the discussion, members requested that the Motion of April 20, 2016 be forwarded to all Regional Councillors representing Markham as the best course of action to press the Region to fulfill their own master transportation plan.

## **9. Incoming Planning Applications**

Mr. Hutcheson provided an update on the following incoming planning applications:

Site Plan Applications	40 Peter Street
	7 Town Crier Lane - New Dwellings
	6030 Highway 7
	329 Main Street North
Other Applications	7 Town Crier Lane – New Subdivision
	8 Main Street North
Heritage Permits	49 Church Street
	56 Nelson Street
	230 Main Street North
	22 Joseph Street
	45 Peter Street
Building Permits	4 Peter Street
	27 Princess Street
	16 Gleason Street
	20 Main Street North
	201 Main Street North
	329 Main Street North
	109 Robinson Street
	60 Main Street North

	22 George Street
	171 Main Street North
	14 Dublin Street
	29 Jerman Street
	55 Rouge Street
	10 Centre Street
	363 Main Street North
	209 Main Street North
	201 Main Street North

Mr. Ross enquired as to whether there were any further developments regarding the ESSO station redesign. Mr. Hutcheson responded that it appears the project had been abandoned.

## **10. Park Development Status**

### **a) LinearPark – Main Street South – Parked Item H**

Mr. Ross provided the members with the following update. He advised that he had heard from Linda Irvine, Manager, Parks and Open Space Development regarding the Gateway to Main Street North Village. Before the summer, the Vinegar Hill Parkette was in the final phase of design with consultants, Cosburn, Giberson Landscape Architects. The park's purpose is to provide a gateway to Main Street Markham Village as well as to Vinegar Hill and to create a more pedestrian friendly experience along Main Street South through the use of appropriate landscaping and improvements to the naturalized buffer. The parkette is .43 acres in size and will include a variety of native trees and shrubs. A request for tender was released before the summer and awarded to the contractor, Forest Ridge Landscaping. Currently they have excavated to build the foundations for the two stone walls. The excess material will be removed but they have also encountered pool soils which will also be removed and replaced. The parkette is expected to be finished by mid November 2016

Mr. Hutcheson said that there have been no changes from the original drawings that this Committee received in a presentation.

- b) Councillor Rea provided an update on Morgan Park. The Committee was advised that the residents wish for the baseball diamond to remain. There are also some requests for a pool. There is a budget request for a Pool Feasibility Study.

## 11. New Business

### a) DCP Signage – Parked Item “P”

Mr. Ross reminded members that three resolutions were passed by the Committee relating to signage. The first related to “No Trucks” signage through the Village. Many of the signs have been posted with just a few more to be installed. The second related to adding the words “Markham Bypass” to signage all along the DCP. Again, most signs are up with a few left to install. The third item, asked Staff to work with the Region to install signage at the interchange for the 407 and the DCP to indicate the Markham Bypass; new signs directing trucks and cars from the DCP to Hwy 48 and back to make the route the main transport route around Markham Village as per the Regional Long Term Plan.

Mr. Ross has been working with Brian Lee, Deputy Director of Engineering on these signage issues. The Committee’s previous motion was assigned to him. This evening, Mr. Lee had sent the attached e-mail (Attachment 1).

Mr. Ross noted that Mr. Lee is now the Director, Engineering succeeding Alan Brown. Mr. Ross feels that Markham was extremely fortunate to have Mr. Brown as Director and feels certain that Mr. Lee will continue the good work. In view of the good progress on the signage, Mr. Ross proposed a Motion thanking Mr. Lee and the Region.

Moved by Peter Ross  
Seconded by Churchill Piggott

That the Main Street Markham Committee thanks Mr. Brian Lee, Director of Engineering for his work to install directional guide signs as well as Markham Bypass signage along the Donald Cousens Parkway and Major McKenzie Drive;

That Mr. Lee convey our thanks and appreciation in an appropriate way to those involved at the Region of York;

And that Mr. Lee convey our thanks and appreciation in an appropriate way to Mr. Alan Brown for his service;

CARRIED

In discussion, members commented that there still appeared to be trucks using Main Street despite the new signage. Members were reminded that delivery trucks to Main Street businesses were permitted. Councillor Rea advised that she would request that the York Regional Police monitor trucks using the route after the start of the school year has settled.

## **12. Next Meeting**

Moved by Churchill Piggott  
Seconded by Graham Dewar

That the Committee meet every other month unless matters requiring immediate attention arise with the next meeting being in November;

And that the minutes of this meeting be circulated for approval prior to the November meeting so that the motions contained herein can go forward.

CARRIED

The next meeting will be held on November 16, 2016 in the Canada Room.

### **Items for discussion at future meetings:**

- Status Update of Tender for Island at 16<sup>th</sup> and Main Street North
- Removal of Old Power Poles

## **13. Parked Items**

- a) Master Plan Environmental Sub-Committee
- b) Promotion of Main Street Sub-Committee
- c) Official Plan and Zoning Review Sub-Committee
- d) Parking Authority and Parking Lot Issues
- e) Status of Town Square Feasibility Study
- f) Five-Year Pathway Implementation Program
- g) Main Street Markham Streetscape Implementation/Funding Strategy
- h) Linear Park Main Street South
- i) Morgan Park
- j) Library Square
- k) Metal Barrier Covers
- l) Bullock Drive to 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue extension
- m) Donald Cousens Parkway Extension to Hwy 48
- n) Steeles Widening Markham Road to Bypass
- o) Heavy Truck Signage (MTO) at 407 & Main Street South
- p) Markham Bypass Highway 48 Signage on Don Cousens Parkway (DCP)
- q) Parking in Markham Village

## **14. Adjournment**

Moved by Peter Ross  
Seconded by Dianne More

That the Main Street Markham Committee meeting adjourn at 7:02 PM.

CARRIED