



**MINUTES FROM THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE IN 2014**

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

November 19, 2014

Members

Councillor Colin Campbell
Graham Dewar
Dianne More
Ardy Reid
Peter Ross
Diane Kobelansky
Jason McCauley
Jonathon Mingay

Regrets

Phil Howes
David Konkle
Jennifer Peters-Morales
Councillor Carolina Moretti
Churchill Piggott
Keith Thirgood
Helen Walter

Staff

Alan Brown, Director of Engineering
Alain Cachola, Manager of Capital Works
George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner
Regan Hutcheson, Manager of Heritage Planning
Kiran Saini, Legislative Coordinator, Meeting Scribe
Diane Samek, Senior Advisor, Marketing and Communications
Carlie Turpin, Public Services and Records Coordinator

The meeting of the Main Street Markham Committee convened without quorum at 5:56 PM with Councillor Colin Campbell as Chair, quorum was obtained at 6:02 PM.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2014 MEETING OF THE
MAIN STREET MARKHAM COMMITTEE**

Moved by Jason McCauley
Seconded by Dianne More

That the minutes of the Main Street Markham Committee meeting held on October 15, 2014, be adopted as distributed.

Carried

2. UPDATES

a) **Main Street Markham Road Re-Construction – Detailed Design Stage** **i. Current Status of Project, South of Highway 7 Section**

Peter provided an update on the status of the road re-construction project.

Main Street Markham North

Peter advised that a complaint was recently published in the Toronto Star regarding the unfinished island at Main Street North and 16th Avenue. The complaint was in reference to old pavement pieces and garbage accumulation. Regan will be following up on the City's effort to address this matter in the next 4-5 weeks. Additionally, Dan Foong, Capital Works Engineer, advised via email that Four Seasons contractors will be completing work along Main Street North beginning this week, including:

- Installation of a dedicated southbound right-turn lane at Bullock Drive;
- Installation of an advanced eastbound left-turn signal at Bullock Drive;
- Repairs to roadway pavers; and,
- Repairs to areas which have been significantly disturbed.

Dan further indicated that localized lane restriction will likely be in place while the construction is taking place (single direction of traffic allowed with the use of traffic control personnel).

Main Street Markham South

Peter advised that the watermain at Main Street North will be connected to the one being installed at Highway 7 and Main Street South. The storm sewers have been installed with the exception of some outstanding work on a few catch basins. For the most part, curbs have been installed and the road has been paved with base asphalt. Work is scheduled to begin on the sidewalks this week and work on the retaining walls has begun. Decorative façade treatment will not be installed on the walls until Spring 2015. It was noted that one large retaining wall was too costly to remove and rebuild, so a plan to address this is being developed. Weather permitting, work is scheduled to be completed by the second or third week of December.

Peter advised that PowerStream has installed poles. Rogers and Bell will be installing their lines and cables next week. There was discussion on the ongoing meetings to plant trees and fences to act as a sound barrier.

ii. Pedestrian Crossing Material Selection

Alan Brown, Director of Engineering and Alain Cachola, Manager of Capital Works were in attendance and provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the details of the "Main Street Markham South Road Reconstruction – Design Issues". There was discussion on the City's desire to create an enhanced and consistent heritage district streetscape, specifically on the Main Street within the Markham Village Heritage Conservation District. Alan provided specific details on 1) the intersection at Highway 7, 2) two pedestrian crossings adjacent to the bridge, and 3) the intersection at Main Street South, James Scott Road and Princess Street.

1) Regional Intersection

It was noted that the Region will not permit the use of decorative pavers for the pedestrian crossing but will allow an impressed asphalt treatment known as Traffic Patterns XD. Alan advised the Region typically uses "colonial brick" but will permit one of three other colour choices: 1) field gray 2) Sonoma sand, or 3) Santa Fe clay.

The crosswalk includes a number of white bars (an “off-set” colour) between the coloured bars to create a patterned area. Staff indicated their preference of “colonial brick” for the impressed asphalt and that either white or tan colour should be used as the “off-set” colour to be consistent with other crosswalks to the north and for accessibility reasons. Staff further noted that the Heritage Markham Committee supported these options.

The Region is also willing to use standard steel poles painted black for both the traffic signal and LED light poles. In response to a question, staff will confirm if the LED arm and light fixture casing will be black in colour.

2) Pedestrian Crossings near Bridge

Alan noted that pavers are not recommended for the surface treatment due to issues of vehicular and pedestrian safety, but that impressed coloured asphalt treatment was supported. He also recommended that the coloured asphalt treatment be consistent with that to be used at the regional intersection for consistency. It was also confirmed that decorative black traffic signal poles and LED heritage lantern style streetlights were to be used in this vicinity.

3) Intersection at Main Street South, James Scott Road and Princess Street

Alan noted that a number of City departments could not support the use of the pavers for the surface treatment for reasons outlined above and due to the installation times required for pavers (8 days) versus impressed asphalt (3-4 hours) in this unique intersection environment. Engineering staff want to ensure that the least amount of disruption be considered for residents in the Vinegar Hill community. It was confirmed that imprinted coloured asphalt consistent with that to be used to the north could be supported and that decorative black signal light poles and LED heritage style streetlights would be used.

It was also noted that for all local pedestrian crossings (not regional), a single colour could be used without the white zebra striping, but that a painted white border is required on each side of the crossing.

Moved by Peter Ross
Seconded by Diane Kobelansky

That Main Street Markham Committee receive the presentation from Engineering Department staff; and,

That Main Street Markham Committee recommends that the same design and material treatment to be used in the regional intersection for pedestrian crossings (coloured impressed asphalt) be used in all pedestrian crossing treatments south of Highway 7, using the colonial brick colour, the off-set brick pattern for the impressed asphalt, and without the zebra brick pattern.

Carried

Note: After the official meeting ended, Engineering staff (Dan Foong) later confirmed that the poles at Highway 7 will be painted black to match all the streetlights from Bullock Drive to Princess Street, and that all fixtures (attachment arm and LED light fixture casing) will be painted black to match. The style of the pole at the regional intersection will be octagonal steel similar to the poles used at the Robinson Street intersection.

iii. Update on Median Treatment at Main Street North and 16th Avenue

Regan displayed drawings of the raised median and explained that the walls will be constructed of a decorative stone, treatment which is the same material being used in construction of the other median south of Highway 7. Weather tolerant plants will be planted in the median. He further indicated that the Region will need to approve the site lines on the proposed median.

b) Review of materials for the Main Street Interpretive Project

Diane provided a display of the proposed landing page layout on the Markham.ca website. The Committee was pleased to see the production site and noted that the e-book should have a keyword index for searching purposes. The layout includes a small picture and a corresponding 100-150 word description of the each theme. Upon clicking on “more” on one of the 16 themes, the page will be directed to a medium sized text and a fully accessible video vignette (includes subtitles for the hearing impaired). It was noted that interpretive panels within the Main Street Markham streetscape will have a link or a QR code so that people can access the website directly from their smart phones. The production of this will likely occur early next year. Diane Kobelansky advised that a time capsule of Markham Village was installed in a parkette and proposed recognition of it on the website.

c) Morgan Park and Library Square

Regan provided an update on behalf of Parks Planning staff advising that Council authorized the Planning Department to complete the design concepts for each park with some modifications to the preferred options. The detailed design stage will involve consultation with the Committee but is still subject to 2015 budget approval. Councillor Colin Campbell advised that he will be placing a request for the cenotaph to be revamped through a design competition and will be completing an application with the federal government to secure funding.

d) Incoming Planning Applications

Regan provided a summary of incoming applications for the following addresses as noted below.

Site Plan Applications

14 Alexander Hunter Place
6 Heritage Corners Lane
201 Main Street North

Heritage Permits

20 George Street
112 Main Street North
6 Wismer Place
Parkway Avenue streetscape

Building Permits

110 (112) Main Street North
117 Robinson Street

Other

Markham Heritage Estates (street lights)

3. NEW BUSINESS

a) Budget Requests for 2015

Regan advised that any budget requests from the Committee should be addressed to the Council Member who sits on the Committee. This matter will be discussed in further detail at the January meeting.

b) Markham Design Excellence Awards – 68 Main Street North

Regan advised that an Award of Merit was given to the owners and architects in recognition of the design at 68 Main Street North.

c) Council Representatives on Main Street Markham Committee

The Committee expressed their gratitude towards Councillors Carolina Moretti and Colin Campbell for their support on the Main Street Markham Committee.

Moved by Peter Ross
Seconded by Jason McCauly

That appreciation and thanks be conveyed to Councillor Carolina Moretti for her dedication to implementing many of the goals and objectives of the Markham Village Vision Plan, and support of the Main Street Markham Committee over the years.

Carried

d) Morgan Park

Councillor Colin Campbell provided background information on the proposal to move the baseball diamond to the park at Cornell Community Centre. He confirmed that he had approached the women's baseball league in Markham Village, and they indicated their support for this move. He further advised that the Council-approved design option did not include a baseball diamond in the park.

e) Jurisdiction Overlap with Heritage Markham Committee

Peter noted that both the Main Street Markham (MSM) and Heritage Markham (HM) Committees are involved in providing input and advice on Markham Village projects including the reconstruction on Main Street Markham. The MSM Committee offers input from people and organizations closely affiliated with the village environment, whereas HM is a City-wide committee, which provides its recommendations based on the policies of the Heritage District Plan and from a heritage perspective.

However, in future, Peter would like to see a process whereby issues and projects are first addressed by the MSM Committee so that Heritage Markham is informed of the local village perspective and concerns prior to coming to their recommendations for Council.

Peter cited the “decorative pavers in pedestrian crossings” issue as an example where the matter should have been discussed with the MSM Committee rather than going to Heritage Markham first. Staff noted that this specific situation occurred in this manner due to timing constraints, and the fact that the heritage committee meets one week prior to the MSM Committee.

Staff indicated that they will attempt to accommodate this request for future projects, if timing permits.

f) Committee Members’ Term Completion

Diane Kobelansky advised that the Markham Village Business Improvement Area Board recently elected new members and her term with the Committee will be ending as of November 30, 2014. She expressed her thanks and appreciation to Committee Members, who demonstrated their dedication to the Committee and its objectives during road re-construction.

Jonathan Mingay indicated that his term with the Main Street Markham Committee will also be complete on November 30, 2014. He also expressed his gratitude to the Committee.

Moved by Peter Ross
Seconded by Jason McCauly

That appreciation and thanks be conveyed to Diane Kobelansky for her dedication and hard work on the Main Street Markham Committee during the course of her term; and,

That appreciation and thanks be conveyed to Jonathan Mingay for his dedication and hard work on the Main Street Markham Committee during the course of his term.

Carried

g) Grading Matters

Councillor Colin Campbell advised that a local business was experiencing water pooling (and freezing due to recent weather conditions) where their garage meets the driveway. This water accumulation is due to the grade changes of the sidewalk in front of their business. It was noted that the City and Dagmar Construction will be helping this local business in resolving this matter.

4. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed that the meeting scheduled for December 17 should be cancelled and the next meeting will be held in January.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Main Street Markham Committee adjourned at 7:15 PM.

6. 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 – added by Peter