



## MARKHAM PUBLIC REALM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### MINUTES April 5, 2017

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#### **PRESENT**

##### Members

Councillor Valerie Burke  
Councillor Alex Chiu  
Councillor Logan Kanapathi  
Chuan Li  
Karen Lui  
Steven Lusk  
Noel Shippey

##### Staff

Tanya Lewinberg, Public Realm Coordinator  
Yvonne Yeung, Senior Urban Design Planner  
Laura Gold, Committee Coordinator

#### **REGRETS**

Bruce (Shichun) Chen  
Jade Lau

#### **1. WELCOME and CALL TO ORDER**

The Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee was called to order at 5:35 pm with Karen Lui serving as Chair.

#### **2. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None was declared.

#### **3. CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted as presented.

#### **4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARKHAM PUBLIC REALM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING ON DECEMBER 19, 2016**

Moved by           Councillor Valerie Burke  
Seconded by       Councillor Alex Chiu

THAT the minutes of the Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee meeting held on February 13, 2017 be adopted as distributed.

CARRIED

## **5. CITIZEN MEMBERS PUBLIC REALM PROGRAM 2017 REVIEW/ PUBLIC REALM PROJECT UPDATE**

### Civic Centre

The Committee was interested in learning more about the Civic Centre project and how it aligns with the City's Master Plan. Tanya Lewinberg explained her plans for the south end of the Civic Centre by the retaining wall. The project is funded and will be completed by fall 2017. The space is being designed, as a nice place staff can go. The demonstration and pollinator garden is part of a separate project.

There are also two shade structures being installed at Civic Centre in 2017. The stability of the ground is being tested prior to installing the structures.

### Gateway Master Plan

Tanya Lewinberg reported that a consultant will be working on the Gateway Master Plan project. The Committee could help by going through the Official Plan and creating a list of Markham's gateways. The timelines of the project were not known at this time yet.

Staff will be encouraging a partnership between Markham, Vaughan and Toronto to improve the Yonge and Steeles Gateway.

There was a brief discussion on Destination Markham a tourist strategy being developed for the City of Markham and if it will have any connection to the Gateway Master Plan.

A Member suggested connecting public art located around the City with the public art put at gateways.

### Adult Exercise Equipment

Tanya Lewinberg advised that adult exercise equipment is being added to 8 City parks this year. The equipment will be scattered along the parks pathways rather than clustered together. There will be 3 pieces of equipment installed at each park. The equipment includes signage showing how to use the equipment.

A Member suggested advertising a fitness app at the adult exercise equipment and potentially obtaining revenue from it.

### Murals

Tanya Lewinberg advised that a RFQ for public murals has been started. The location is still to be determined. Committee members were asked to suggest appropriate locations.

### Peg Sculpture

Tanya Lewinberg reported that a peg sculpture may be created at the pollinator nursery at Milne Park. The sculpture could be made out of a dead tree or a hydro pole. The project

would cost approximately \$5,000. The Committee suggested that the hydro pole should be used, as it is stronger and will last longer.

#### Traffic Control Boxes

In 2017, 11 Canada 150 themed wraps will be placed on Markham traffic control boxes. These wraps are being designed by Unionville High students. The wraps are anticipated to last a minimum of 5 years, and a maximum of 10 years. The Committee suggested having a City wide competition for future traffic wrap designs and identifying the artist of the wraps either in literature or on the traffic wrap.

#### Legacy Garden

Tanya Lewinberg reported that no funding request has been submitted for a legacy rose garden or forest at this time. A funding request to support the project may be put forward in the future.

#### Vendor Box Infrastructure

The vendor boxes will be tested in 3 to 5 locations. The vendors were consulted on the test locations. Once the vendor boxes are installed the vendors will need to register with the City to distribute their papers.

#### Park Gatherings

A Committee Member asked if you can host a gathering at a park. Tanya Lewinberg advised she will find out if there is a policy on the matter and report back at the next meeting.

#### New Projects

All 2017 public realm projects are funded. Funding will need to be requested for any new project to be initiated in 2018. These requests will be reviewed through the 2018 budget approval process, which commences in August.

A Committee Member suggested adding a covering to the outdoor rink located at Civic Centre to help block the wind, as a potential idea for a public realm project.

#### Bike Racks

Three quotes for the bike racks have been received. An engineering company from Nova Scotia will be producing the racks.

#### Unionville Library

A circular bench around the tree will be installed under a tree close to Unionville Library. A picture of the bench was displayed to the Committee.

#### Accessible Panels

Accessible panels were added to a park in Councillor Kanapathi's Ward.

Community Boards

Tanya Lewinberg is still trying to get 3 quotes for the community boards, as it is a custom item it is more challenging getting the quotes. The quotes are required to be in compliance with City's purchasing policies.

**6. PUBLIC REALM SPEAKER SERIES**

Yvonne Yeung presented the 2017 Speaker Series Schedule, which is as follows:

- Vision Engaging Sustaining and Beautiful
- Keeping Markham Beautiful
- Animating our Neighbourhoods & Districts
- Harmonizing our Efforts & Sharing our Resources
- Creating Gateways & Destinations

The Speaker Series was created in collaboration with industry experts on the matter. There is still budget to hold an additional event, as lunch was cut from the budget. The Committee suggested doing a citizen focused event, possibly as part of Applefest or Taste of Asia. The Committee could create a sub-committee to help organize the event.

A committee suggested that plain language should be used when presenting information to the public.

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee meeting will be held on June 7, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

That the Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee adjourned at 6:58 p.m.