

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Proposed cat adoption centre in Thornhill, Markham

From: Pam Young
Sent: June 18, 2015 3:36 PM
To: Clerks Public
Subject: W: Proposed cat adoption centre in Thornhill, Markham

Good day:

I have been a Markham resident for over 25 years and I am writing to let you know that I am 100% in favour of the cat adoption centre that will, hopefully, be located in the Thornhill Community Centre. I live just a few blocks from the TCC and make good use of its services. I think this will be a tremendous asset to the Centre and to Markham.

Previously, for Markham residents who wished to adopt an animal from the OSPCA we had to drive all the way to Newmarket....and quite a few residents, especially seniors, do not have cars. A local and easily accessible site will be so appreciated.

For those people who live alone adopting a pet can make a tremendous difference to their emotional and mental health. For some people, it may even be their reason for getting up in the morning.

As well, far too many cats are euthanized; I was shocked when I found out the numbers. Having a cat adoption centre located in Markham will be a huge step towards correcting this and, again hopefully, the adoption centre will promote responsible pet ownership.

I am positive that most residents in the area will be delighted to see the City of Markham move ahead with this project.

Respectfully,

Pamela Young

Hau, Lucy

2

Subject: FW: New Cat Adoption and Education Centre

From: cyprise

Sent: June 18, 2015 5:04 PM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Armstrong, Nirmala; Burke, Valerie; Ho, Alan; Hamilton, Don; Rea, Karen; Campbell, Colin; Collucci, Amanda; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex; Raman, Raj; Clerks Public

Cc: Julie Chan

Subject: New Cat Adoption and Education Centre

Dear Mayor and Councillors of Markham,

I am writing to urge you to approve the proposed Cat Adoption and Education Centre in the Thornhill Community Centre, put forth by the Animal Care Committee.

I think it is important for Markham to have its own established Adoption Center fit for our City's status.

This Center will be a boost for all the dedicated volunteers in Markham and to promote our City as one that is not just great for people to live in, but a community of great people who are serious of animal welfare.

Thank you and sincerely,

Cheryl Lam

Sent from my Samsung device

3

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Adoption Centre

From: terridaniels

Sent: June 18, 2015 10:47 PM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Armstrong, Nirmala; Burke, Valerie; Ho, Alan; Hamilton, Don; Rea, Karen; Campbell, Colin; Collucci, Amanda; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex

Cc: Clerks Public

Subject: Adoption Centre

Dear Mayor, Regional Councillors and Councillors

I am writing to ask you to support the proposed adoption centre at the Thornhill Community Centre.

This is an innovative concept that has benefits not only for animals but, for people. There would be opportunities for children, students, adults and seniors to participate. Education about responsible pet care will be available. Volunteer and outreach programmes would provide community and social experiences for people. And euthanasia rates would drop.

The location takes advantage of existing City assets without displacing any group. Thornhill Community Centre is a high traffic facility that will attract significant potential adopters and visitors to the animals. The program at this location has the potential to be a successful and unique community service that the City would be proud to be part of.

Once again, I request that you vote in support of the adoption centre on Monday.

Regards,

Terri Daniels

4

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Pet adoption - Thornhill Community Centre

From: briandaniels

Sent: June 19, 2015 6:58 AM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Armstrong, Nirmala; Burke, Valerie; Ho, Alan; Hamilton, Don; Rea, Karen; Campbell, Colin; Collucci, Amanda; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex

Cc: Clerks Public

Subject: Pet adoption - Thornhill Community Centre

Dear Mayor and Councillors

The proposed animal adoption centre sounds like a fantastic idea! The location is great and despite the news article, I'm sure Markham can accommodate the seniors who claim to be displaced. This is a win-win situation for not only the animals but the community.

There's only one thing that would be better than an adoption centre and that's a shelter in Markham.

I am asking you vote in favour of the storefront/adoption centre at the Thornhill Community Centre.

Thank you,

Brian Daniels

5

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Thornhill Animal Adoption Center

From: Paul Duncan

Sent: June 19, 2015 8:56 AM

To: Clerks Public; Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Armstrong, Nirmala; Burke, Valerie; Ho, Alan; Hamilton, Don; Rea, Karen; Campbell, Colin; Collucci, Amanda; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex

Subject: Thornhill Animal Adoption Center

Dear Mayor Scarpitti and Members of Council,

I have never written to the City before but felt compelled to now.

I read the newspaper article last week on the proposed animal adoption center at the Thornhill Community Centre and wanted to let Council know that I think this is a positive step forward.

I have been a resident for forty years and have owned pets over that time period, and have had occasion to use animal services, and was forced to drive all the way to Whitby and Newmarket. A couple of years ago we were looking to adopt an animal, and chose to get one from a rescue group that was based in Markham because we didn't want to drive the thirty or more minutes to Newmarket.

Markham is now a large, thriving, metropolitan city that should have its own shelter and animal services located within the city, but the adoption and education center is a good first step.

My family and I look forward to visiting and using it.

Sincerely

Paul Duncan

Hau, Lucy

6

Subject: FW: Please Support the Animal Adoption Centre

From: JANET ANDREWS

Sent: June 19, 2015 10:30 AM

To: Scarpitti, Frank; Heath, Jack; Armstrong, Nirmala; Jones, Jim; Li, Joe; Burke, Valerie; Ho, Alan; Hamilton, Don; Rea, Karen; Campbell, Colin; Collucci, Amanda; Kanapathi, Logan; Chiu, Alex

Cc: Cane, Trinela; Clerks Public

Subject: Please Support the Animal Adoption Centre

Members of Council:

I am writing to urge you to vote in support of the animal adoption centre at the Thornhill Community Centre. Two years ago, I was thrilled when Council approved the concept of a storefront location and directed staff to report back on an implementation strategy. A staff report will be before the General Committee on Monday, recommending the adoption centre be installed in the Thornhill Community Centre.

Far too many adoptable cats are needlessly killed every year for lack of an aggressive re-homing strategy. The success of the two Niagara Region locations in shopping malls proves that putting cats in a very public area greatly increases the adoption rates - the Welland location has adopted out over 2500 cats in just two years.

Numerous studies have shown the many health benefits of interacting with cats such as the reduction of blood pressure and stress levels and children's reading programs. The adoption centre will provide an opportunity for members of the public to drop in and interact with the cats.

I know that concerns have been raised about putting animals in a community centre. But just because it's never been done before doesn't mean it's not a great concept. Pet owners, and those looking to adopt a pet, are part of the community so why shouldn't their needs be incorporated into a community centre? Any concerns about allergens in the building are unfounded as the adoption centre will have its own separate HVAC system. The community centre does not prohibit pet owners from coming into the building for other existing programs, so concerns about visitors to the storefront bringing in allergens cannot be given weight.

The Animal Care Committee voted this week to donate \$30,000 towards the capital costs of the adoption centre. This represents the majority of the money the Committee has raised over the past few years through the sale of its calendar and donations raised at public events that Committee members attend. It took a lot of hard work and effort to raise this money so it demonstrates the level of commitment the Animal Care Committee has for this project.

Markham Council has the opportunity to be an innovative leader in the provision of animal services; I am asking you to do the right thing and vote in support of the adoption centre.

Thank you for your consideration.

Janet Andrews