

# COUNCILLOR/CONSEILLER RILEY BROCKINGTON

# **Ridgemont Community Association**



# **Councillor Riley Brockington's Community Update**

Sept 25, 2019

# **Bank Street Redesign Visioning Exercise**

The City of Ottawa is hosting a public open house for the Bank Street redesign project. The open house is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 6:30pm -8:00pm in the Ellwood Hall at the Jim Durrell Arena, 1265 Walkley Road.

The intent of the visioning exercise is for City staff to meet with and gather comments and feedback from residents that will help inform the preliminary design. There will be no formal presentation at this session. There will be illustrations of the Bank Street functional design for residents to review and share their ideas and issues with City staff who will be on hand to answer any questions.

As you may recall, in July 2017, the City selected their preferred design of a new and improved segment of Bank Street from Riverside Drive to approximately Ledbury Avenue. The preferred design is aligned with the complete streets components that the City is shifting towards. The new design through the corridor will feature new sidewalks, a landscaped boulevard, a cycle track, and a buffer area between the roadway on both sides of Bank Street. Two motor vehicle lanes will be kept in each direction with a new depressed median along most of the roadway, removing the two-way turn lane design that is currently on Bank Street. Raised medians will be located closer to the intersections.

### 1910 Bank Street - Starbucks Site Plan Approval

The Site Plan application for the new Starbucks at 1910 Bank Street was approved. There was some back and forth prior to approval on two main issues that I sought clarification on:

- 1. The location of the multi-use pathway (MUP) on the RioCan property and,
- 2. The need to review the preliminary design of the Bank Street redesign plan, particularly the

median in front of the RioCan property and ability to provide refuge to vehicles that are temporarily waiting for traffic to clear in the travel lanes.

The Site Plan was approved with the following conditions:

- 1. The MUP will be built to connect the RioCan property to the Pedestrian crossing across Bank Street and shuttle pedestrians and cyclist across the property, to the western side, to the future MUP that will connect to Walkley Station. The MUP on RioCan property will be heavily signed and raised, so that when vehicles cross it, they will know for sure this is a MUP crossing.
- 2. RioCan acknowledges and agrees to have a transportation specialist monitor the Multi-Use Pathway for a 2-year period starting when the full extent of the Multi-Use Pathway from the Walkley O-Train Station to Bank Street is in use. The monitoring report shall be to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department. If the outcome of the monitoring identifies conflicts and/ or safety issues with the current location of the Multi-Use Pathway, the Owner agrees to construct a new Multi-Use Pathway along the north side of the property, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department.
- 3. RioCan agrees to provide a separate Letter of Credit, which will be held until such time as the City determines that a replacement Multi-Use Pathway is not require or if required, that the Multi-Use Pathway along the north side of the property is built to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development Department.
- 4. An aesthetically pleasing barrier will be built between the Swiss Chalet and the Multi-Use Pathway to avoid conflicts with passing cyclists and diners exiting the **Swiss Chalet**

No timelines at this time on when the construction will commence.

# 1248 Walkley Road

On Tuesday August 6, I met with representatives of and the property owner for 1248 Walkley Road (at Banff). They presented their vision to me, to build a two-storey building on the existing vacant land, that would function as ground floor retail and residential on the second floor.

In summary, the proposal is as follows:

- Proposing a two storey building with ground floor commercial and two apartments on top.
- Arterial Mainstreet zoning allows for this type of development, so it will strictly be a standard site plan control application, no zoning amendment would be required
- Proposing a hair salon in one of the commercial units.
   Owner has existing salon in the neighbourhood, but will relocate to the new location
- The zoning is dictating the height of building in the application, required 7.5m. 4.5m ground floor and 3.0m above.
- Proponent may potentially look at applying to the Committee of Adjustment to \*reduce\* the height and massing requirement in the zoning.
- Proposed 8 total parking stalls, which meets the zoning requirement
- No formal site plan development application has been submitted to the City of Ottawa at this time.

Yesterday I arranged for the RCA Board to meet the owner and their representatives to review the potential site plan development application. Of note, some items that will need to be reviewed when the formal applications is submitted are garbage enclosure, lighting, snow storage, window treatments, and landscaping. I will circulate a copy of the site plan when the formal application is submitted and deemed accepted and complete by the City Planning department.

# 655-755 Anand Private Development

The City of Ottawa has approved a site plan control amendment application to revise the previously approved site plan for a residential apartment building at 655 and 755 Anand Private to increase the height of the two towers from 16 storeys to 17 and add a new 6-storey podium connecting the towers. The overall unit count has increased from 250 units to 360. The development is on the southwest corner of the Bank Street and Walkley Road intersection west of the Shoppers Drug Mart and immediately east of the Walkley transit station and future LRT station.

# O-Train Confederation Line opened to customers on

# September 14

As you are certainly aware, the O-Train Confederation Line

was launched on Saturday, September 14 and is now fully open for service at all 13 stations along the line, from Tunney's Pasture Station in the west to Blair Station in the east. I invite you to try out the line and share your feedback on what you like and may dislike about the new operation.



On October 6, OC Transpo will be launching it's largest route system change in history with changes to routes across the city as the system completes it's integration with the Confederation line. Before heading out to use transit after October 6, please visit OCTranspo.com and use the Travel Planner to see how your commute has changed.

# **Airport Parkway Pedestrian Bridge Naming**

I am pleased to announce a proposal to officially name the Airport Parkway Pedestrian Bridge to the Juno Beach Memorial Bridge, in honour and memory of the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion on June 6, 1944 was approved today by City Council. As the bridge is not proposed to be named after a person, the process is different than the commemorative naming process. I gave advanced notice at City Council on September 11 and the item was considered and approved today. The Juno Beach Association and Canadian Legion are supportive of this proposal. A ceremony will be held during Veterans week.

# **New Chief of Police**

On Monday, August 26, the Ottawa Police Services Board announced that it has selected Peter Sloly as the new Chief of Police for the Ottawa Police Service (OPS). Mr. Sloly is a former Deputy Chief from the Toronto Police Service and he is slated to begin his new role as Chief of Police in October.

# **Official Plan Review**

On August 22, the City's Planning Committee, in a joint session with the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, received a staff report outlining preliminary policy directions for the new Official Plan.

City Staff presented the policy directions, which would address the challenges our maturing, mid-sized city will face over the next 25 years. The high-level direction touches on five key themes:

**Growth** – The City would encourage more growth through intensification, in areas that are already built up, than through expansion into new or undeveloped areas.

**Mobility** – The City would aim for more than half of all trips to be made by sustainable transportation, including public transit, carpooling, walking and cycling.

**Neighbourhoods** – The City would improve community planning and design, with a focus on neighbourhoods, expanding the total area where residents could function without a car.

Natural Systems – The City would better integrate public health, energy and environmental resiliency considerations in planning matters.

**Economic Development** – The City would look to embed economic development considerations in planning matters.

The City is in the process of developing a completely new Official Plan to ensure Ottawa continues to adapt to current and emerging needs, opportunities and challenges. Staff are working to produce a final draft of a new Official Plan by the end of 2021. Staff aim to start public consultations in the coming months, to ask residents about this high-level policy direction.

# **2020 City of Ottawa Budget Consultations**

Save the date: I am cohosting a City of Ottawa Budget Consultation on Tuesday, October 22 at 6-8pm at the Jim Durrell Arena, 1265 Walkley Road. I will be joined by my colleagues Carol Anne Meehan, Jean Cloutier, and Shawn Menard. Please join us if you are available to share your feedback on items that you may want to see in the City Budget.

If you are unable to attend but would like to share your feedback with me regarding budget priorities, please send me an email at Riley.Brockington@Ottawa.ca.

# <u>City Offering Rebate for Homeowners to Replace Lead</u> <u>Water Pipes</u>

The City of Ottawa approved a rebate to the Lead Pipe Replacement Program. Homeowners whose homes were built before 1955 could potentially have lead water pipes that connect to non-lead City pipes and could be eligible for a new rebate of up to \$1,000, about 20 per cent of the total replacement cost. The City would continue to offer loans for properties where both the private and City portions of the water pipes are made of lead. As a stop-gap measure, homeowners with confirmed lead levels that exceed Health Canada's recently updated guideline, or who are awaiting pipe replacement under the program, could get a year's worth of free water filters to remove lead from their tap water.

To have your water tested for lead, call 3-1-1 to make an appointment.

## **Rental Housing Regulatory Review**

Over the last several months, the City of Ottawa has been undertaking the Rental Housing Regulatory Review. The goal of the study is to conduct a review of regulations governing private sector rental properties to address public health and safety, consumer protection, community nuisances and other areas of municipal concern. This review includes a review of policy options to address housing conditions, student housing, rooming houses and shared accommodations.

The consultant reports from Maclaren Municipal Consulting are currently being finalized, and will include their recommendations along with a summary of the consultations conducted to date. The consultant report is expected to be published online for review in the coming two weeks.

A special Community and Protective Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 15, 2019 at 9:30am at Ottawa City Hall to consider the staff report which will be released to City Council on November 4. The City staff report will include recommended policy frameworks for the regulation of rental housing and short-term rental accommodations as well as recommendations concerning additional hotel, motel, and bed and breakfast regulation.

In advance of the special committee meeting, one final round of consultations lead by City staff will occur prior to the release of the staff report. This will include an online survey, available on ottawa.ca from October 4 to October 18 and two public meetings:

Rental Housing: Ben Franklin Place, October 22, 6-8 pm Short-Term Rental Accommodations (Air BnB): Nepean Sportsplex, October 23, 6-8 pm

I invite all residents to participate.

# **Engage Ottawa - 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Refresh**

The City of Ottawa released the Ten Year Plan: A Home for Everyone 2014-2024 in 2014. The City is now updating the plan, in consultation with Ottawa residents, as part of a required provincial mid-point review. This review allows cities to revise their plans so that they remain responsive to the changing needs of residents and the housing environment.

The Engage Ottawa website for the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan review has been launched. Engage Ottawa provides an opportunity for residents to give feedback on housing initiatives and keeps them informed

as the City updates the plan. We encourage residents to register for the site to stay updated on the progress of the 10-Year Plan review and to answer specific questions that will help the City decide on new strategies and initiatives to help increase the supply of affordable and supportive housing, create more affordability for residents, and help the City achieve our goal of ending chronic homelessness.

For more information on the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan please visit https://engage.ottawa.ca/.

# 3025 Albion Road North Update

The new owners of the property are planning to take possession of the facility to begin their renovations in November. The current school facility has been tentatively sold but they will remain at their current location until June 30, 2020.

City Council approved the Zoning Amendment and Site Plan applications earlier this year to permit a place of worship, school, and community centre at 3025 Albion Road North. The site is located on the east side of Albion Road North, south of Walkley Road and east of Bank Street. The existing building (Hydro Ottawa) is a threestorey office, storage/warehouse, and maintenance facility with a large paved parking area in the rear. The existing 200,000 square foot building will be retained with a significant renovation and retrofit to the interior of the building to meet the ABCO's needs. There are approximately 400 parking spots available at this location.

I will continue to provide the community updated information as I receive it from the owners on their planned renovation schedule.

Hundreds of vehicle movements, per day, have been eliminated from local streets, mainly Albion and Kitchener from Hydro Ottawa employees vacating the property. It is recommended that any traffic calming initiatives, to be contemplated and discussed by the community for implementation along the Kitchener corridor, regarding full or partial road closures, one way designations or any other non-seasonal initiative be delayed, until the multi-use centre on Albion Road is open, potentially by the middle of next year.

# "Paint the Town Orange" - Liberation 75 Campaign

Ottawa residents are invited to participate in the Liberation75 Campaign by purchasing and planting

special tulips commemorating the 75th anniversary liberation of the Netherlands by Canadian-led troops in the Second World War.

The goal of the Liberation 75 planting initiative is to see 1.1 million brilliant orange, exclusively named Liberation 75 tulips blooming across Canada next spring. The 1.1 million figure represents one bloom for each Canadian who served in the Second World War. In May of 2020, the world will mark the 75th anniversary of the Netherlands Liberation Day, which took place on May 5, 1945.

If you are interested in participating, please visit www.liberation75.ca.

#### SAVE THE DATE:

# **Christmas Social**

I am hosting my annual Christmas Social on Monday, December 9 at 7:00pm at the Carleton Heights Community Centre, 1665 Apeldoorn Avenue. All are welcome.



# Save your Seat today! RSVP at 613-580-2486 or by email at Andrea.Ward@Ottawa.ca

# **River Ward Older Adult Summit**



Friday, October 4, 2019 8:30am - 12:30pm

Hunt Club - Riverside Park Community Centre 3320 Paul Anka Drive

### Tentative topics:

- Thinking of Downsizing?
- Fitness to Drive as We Age
- Brain Health

# Celebrity Guest Speakers

Includes Continental Breakfast and Light lunch.

Event sponsored in part by Revera and Chartwell Retirement.