

Member's Meeting – Mar. 3rd, 2014

We will be holding a members meeting at the Varley Art Gallery on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Our feature topic will be "Section 37 Funds and Potential Projects". Section 37 funds are collected by the City from developers in return for extra height/density. They are intended to be used for "community benefits". We will be discussing the status of the funds collected and current projects to date, and soliciting ideas for other projects to consider.

Unionville Main Street Removal of Restaurant Restrictions and Permitting Additional Uses

At URA's last member's meeting in January, we discussed the staff recommendation to remove the restaurant restrictions and permit additional uses. Following a member's vote, URA presented a deputation at the public meeting on February 4, essentially supporting the staff position. Other deputants were also generally supportive. The final staff report summarizes the results of the public meeting and makes minor changes and clarifications to the original recommendations. It will go to Council in March and presumably be approved.

URA's attention now shifts to the final proposed Master Plan, which covers the physical infrastructure vision for Main Street. We anticipate that our member's meeting in April will deal with this topic.



York Downs Golf Course Redevelopment

This private golf course is located on the north side of 16th Avenue between Kennedy Road and Country Estates Drive. At a meeting in February, members of the golf course agreed to pursue sale of the land to a developer. They have two offers in hand, with likely more to come. Although not in our Ward, URA will be monitoring events on this file, as redevelopment of this large property will clearly impact transportation infrastructure, social infrastructure and quality of life in our community. Stay tuned!

Canada Women's Hockey League – Clarkson Cup

For those of you that were thrilled by the women's hockey at the Sochi Olympics, there is another opportunity to see these great players, live. The Clarkson Cup playoffs for the championship of the Canada Women's Hockey League will be held at Markham Centennial Arena from March 18 – 22, 2014.

Cell Tower at Plaza at 100 Carleton Road is Cancelled

Councillor Don Hamilton advises that he has been able to obtain a commitment from the plaza owner that a cell phone tower will not be pursued at this location. Further, as a condition of allowing a pre-school to be placed on this property, a clause was inserted by the Committee of Adjustment which would not allow a cell tower to be installed.

Litchfield Developments – 4116, 4128 and 4142 Highway 7

Some of you may have noticed three new “Notice of Complete Application” signs at these three properties, which are located on the north side of Highway 7 just east of the Volvo dealer. The developer is proposing a total of 50 2- and 3- story townhouses and to connect the two present-day arms of Litchfield Road. The staff report identified no significant issues. Councillor Hamilton has obtained a two month deferral in the process to allow the applicant to explore an option to end the west extension of Litchfield in a cul-de-sac, and not connect it to Ferrah St.

3912 and 3928 Highway 7 Development,

Members will recall that this development on the north side of Highway 7, just east of St. Justin Martyr Church, is proposing approximately twice the density currently approved for similar neighbouring sites. The Markham staff report identifies numerous significant issues and concerns. At a public meeting on February 4, numerous residents and councillors spoke strongly in opposition to the proposal in its current form. The matter has been referred to the Unionville Subcommittee.

Municipal Election Update

The City of Markham maintains a list of registered candidates for the municipal election of October, 2014. As of February 19, no candidates had registered for Councillor for our Ward 3 or for Board Member for either school board in our area, and no candidates had registered for Mayor. Six candidates, including 3 incumbents, had registered to run as Regional Councillor.

Improvements to GO Transit

GO Transit continues to study and make improvements to their system. The Environmental Assessment for track and station upgrades to provide 2-way all-day rail service for all Markham stations is underway and concluded public meetings in January. On a smaller scale, GO has installed pilot electric vehicle charging stations at Centennial GO station, and will be introducing a “Carpool to GO” program at Unionville, Centennial and Markham GO stations.



What is the URA?

A non-partisan association of the residents of Unionville

- ✓ Boundaries: Warden Ave. to McCowan Rd. and Sixteenth Ave. to Hwy 407
- ✓ Founded in 1974 to protect the interests of the community
- ✓ Registered with the Province of Ontario and the City of Markham

What does URA do?

- ✓ Stays current on events, activities and issues in Unionville
- ✓ Keeps our members informed through regular email broadcasts and monthly meetings (with guest speakers on hot topics)
- ✓ Ensures our residents' views are known and communicated to local, regional and provincial government officials and representatives
- ✓ Provides information on our website on active issues
- ✓ Organizes special events (e.g. All-Candidates meetings during elections, issue based meetings)

Join Us!!

Your voice...
Makes our voice stronger

For more membership info, please go to our web site
<http://unionvilleratepayers.com/membership.htm>