

March 2014 Newsletter



Members Meeting - Apr 7th, 2014



We will be holding a members meeting at the Varley Art Gallery on Monday April 7, 2014 at 7:00pm. Our feature topic will be a summary of a just-completed analysis by URA showing that development in the local area (Markham Centre and Ward 3) is trending significantly ahead of forecast, while transportation infrastructure is lagging. We have reviewed the analysis with City staff and with two councillors. The results are quite disturbing and suggest a major pinch point in only a few years. They should make an interesting meeting!

Unionville Main Street Master Plan

As readers may recall, the Main Street Master Plan, which covers the physical infrastructure vision for Main Street, is nearing completion. We had planned to discuss this topic at our April meeting. However, the consultant advises that his work is still incomplete. We anticipate that our members meeting in May will deal with this topic.

Section 37 Funds and Potential Projects – Update

This topic was featured at our March meeting and consisted of an introduction and solicitation of project ideas from members in the audience. Members identified over 20 project ideas in such diverse areas as community open space, community facilities, enhanced transit, enhanced roads and better cycling or pedestrian infrastructure.

After the meeting, the URA Directors met to discuss next steps. We intend to develop value attributes (criteria) and complete a preliminary scoring of the ideas. We will then report back to the members with the results, and discuss next steps.

Development at Enterprise Road / Ravis Road (SW corner)

A large development (1400 residential units, 10 story office building) has been proposed by Markham Centre Development Corporation (MCDC) for this location, just west of the Pan Am facility. This is the same developer that has approval for a 981 unit residential development on the north side of Enterprise, directly opposite from the subject property. The staff report, dated April 1, 2014, has raised numerous issues with the subject proposal, including timing, building height, mix of uses, density and incompatibility with growth forecasts.

Markham Public Library Community Consultation

As broadcast in an earlier email blast (March 20), Markham Public Library is undertaking a series of public consultations on a new strategic plan, at 10 locations between March 23 – April 6. Although residents are free to attend any meeting, the most convenient for us is at Unionville Train Station on Tuesday April 1 at 7:00pm.