

## September 8<sup>th</sup> Members' Meeting

Our next members' meeting will be on **September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 (Thursday) 7:00 pm at the Markham Pan Am Centre Committee room 2**. We have invited Chris Alexander, Manager of bylaw & regulatory service, Tom Villella, Manager of zoning & special project and John Gladki, consultant of zoning bylaw review project, to present the followings:

- Sign Bylaw
- Tree Preservation Bylaw
- Zoning Bylaw Status Update

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Welcome Andre De Grasse Home



Canada won 22 medals at the Rio Olympics and finish 10th in the medal standings including Markham Andre De Grasse with silver in 200M, bronze in 100M and 4 x 100M relay.

City of Markham will invite resident on September 18, 2016 (Sunday) to welcome home our Milliken Mills hero Andre De Grasse at Panam Centre and to celebrate his incredible achievements at the Rio Olympics, For detail, please visit link below

<http://www.markham.ca/wps/poc/wcm/path:markhamconstituentcontent/01markhamcasite/home/news/homecoming-andre-degrasse>

## Safe Injection Site

Supervised injection facilities aka "Insite" is a controversial topic. Public believe government should not facilitate drug use and insite neighborhood has more crime issue Supporter advocates "insite" will save life, bridge to help detoxing and will benefit the public health and the broader community.

Federal Bill C-2 Respect for Communities Act was passed in 2013 as a result of Supreme Court ruling that allows Vancouver's supervised injection facility "insite" to exempt from the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act based on the Charter of right to live, liberty and security. Ontario public health provides the right for equitable access to healthcare including addiction and Rehabilitation for harm reduction service.

The location of the addiction and rehabilitation centre can be controveral for residence and is governed by Municipal government. Currently York Region has 4 sexual health clinic centre providing needle exchange including one in 4261 Highway 7 near Unionville Main Street. The needle exchange service provides injection drug users with free sterile equipment for free in a confidential and no question ask manner.

Markham is currently reviewing Addiction / Recovery bylaw with detail described in Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw Review Task 16b. Markham Unionville Federal MP Bob Saroya will be hosting a roundtable with the following detail

**Topics :** Safe Injection Site

**Date :** September 10, 2016 (Saturday) 2 PM - 4 PM

**Venue :** Centennial Community Centre

**Address :** 8600 McCowan Road N, Markham L3P 3M2

**NEEDLE EXCHANGE**  
**FIND OUT MORE HERE**

## Sign Bylaw 2002-94



The purpose of the sign bylaw is to regulate the sign in city of Markham with the following

1. the size, number and location of the sign
2. reasonable mean to locate the business and service without difficulty
3. compatible with the surrounding of sign
4. preserve and enhance the quality and public beauty of the city
5. consistent with urban design and heritage objective
6. not create distraction and safety hazard for driver
7. any adverse effect on nearby property
8. not impairing public right of expression

The bylaw has specific section described on

- what type of sign is prohibited such as area or building belong to the city of Markham or road right of way
- what type of sign is exempted from permit including open house direction sign
- permit requirement
- administration and violation

For more detail, please attend September 8th evening URA Member's Meeting at Panam Centre community room.

## Tree Preservation 2008-96

The tree preservation bylaw preserves tree of all properties to sustain urban forest by regulating the destruction or injury of tree. Any tree of 8 inches & more in diameter or 56 inches & more in height will require a permit before destroying any plant with the exception of the followings

- hazard tree removal
- emergency work removal
- ordered to remove by property standard
- diseased, dying or dead tree
- pruning not more than 1/3 of the branch
- tree removal in rooftop garden, indoor courtyard, solarium
- nursery business tree
- orchard tree
- removal authorized by building permit, subdivision plan, site plan

You may require a tree expert report to support your tree removal when applying a permit to remove the tree. Failure to obtain permit, you might be fined between \$500 to \$100,000.

Currently there is heritage bylaw to protect property with heritage tree and park. However, if a property has tree that has not been classified by city of Markham as heritage property, tree or garden that is scenic or with historic value will not be preserved. Markham strategy is compensatory by planting more trees through tree for tomorrow but we need to protect tree for today's program.

To understand more, please join us at September 8th evening URA member's Meeting at Panam Centre community room



## Ride Sharing – Key to cut traffic gridlock



Toronto council has approved private transportation company like Uber to operate and book service through smartphone apps in March 2016 with minimum fare \$3.25, no maximum and can surge peak time pricing. Uber driver will need to have a license to operate and will need to buy \$2 million insurance for bodily injury, death and damages to people or property. In May 2016, Uber announced UberPool with up to 4 passengers sharing same ride for \$6 commuting on 4 routes including

- Yonge & Eglinton to Downtown Toronto
- Parkdale to Distillery District
- East York to Junction
- Annex to Union Station

Metrolinx announced mid-August 2016 a new report "sharing the road - the promise and perils of shared mobility in the GTHA" by University of Toronto Mowat Centre. Essentially the report advocates to adopt disrupting technology like Uber shared economy are one of the modes of transit to solve the road congestion at peak hour and the last mile of the existing transportation infrastructure. The report suggests public and private transportation service can work together to provide microtransit such as van, minibus using Uber like service that can possibly relief some of the empty public transit bus. In fact private mini-bus service in Hong Kong has proven success since 1970 with authorized route from ministry of transportation supplementing public transit service in particular condominium shuttle service to subway serving 2 million riders daily today.

Shared economy like Uber, Airbnb is no longer a new kid in block but rather making its way around the world pressing municipal to accommodate or ban the service. Alberta ministry of transportation requires Uber driver to license with insurance and criminal record free, Uber is not in Vancouver yet but British Columbia is reviewing the legislation. Mississauga and Hamilton are still reviewing the licensing regulation such as insurance requirement, fee, police criminal check.

Does Markham need to study Uber, Airbnb or similar shared economy service and review licensing if needed?

For more detail of "sharing the road" report, please click <https://mowatcentre.ca/sharing-the-road/>

## 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 relevant topics
- ✓ Ensures that residents' views are known and communicated to local, regional and provincial government officials
- ✓ Maintains a website that contains information on active issues
- ✓ Organizes special events, such as candidates' meetings, during elections

## Join Us!!

Together Our Voice  
Is Stronger

Membership information can found at:

<http://www.unionvilleratepayers.com/membership.html>