



RIVER WARD CITY COUNCILLOR MARIA McRAE'S REPORT TO THE CENTRAL PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION January 19, 2011

Happy New Year! It is an honour and a privilege to continue to be your strong voice at City Hall. This term, in addition to City Council, I am serving as Chair of the City's new Environment Committee and will represent you on the newly formed Finance and Economic Development Committee, the new Ottawa Board of Health and the Hydro Ottawa Holdings Inc. Board of Directors. I look forward to continue working with Central Park residents and the CPCA to make our community a great place to live.

Laurentian Place: Walmart Grand Opening

Walmart is officially opening on Friday, January 28, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. Thank you for your input and patience during the design and construction of this new development.

Scout Street to Baseline Road Pedestrian Pathway

The pedestrian pathway connecting Scout Street to Baseline Road is now open. Thank you for your patience during construction.

Low-Income Energy Assistance Program

The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) is a new year-round, province-wide program available to low-income consumers experiencing difficulty paying their electricity bills. In Ottawa, LEAP is funded by Hydro Ottawa and is administered by the United Way/Centraide in conjunction with the Salvation Army Booth Centre and a network of community in-take agencies. For more information on this program, please contact the Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre at 613-241-1573.

City Rinks Open for the Season

Many of the City of Ottawa's outdoor rinks are now open for use. The City of Ottawa operates a rink at:

Celebration Park – 200 Central Park Drive
Bellevue Manor – 1520 Caldwell Avenue

Additional City of Ottawa rink locations can be found on the City's website at www.ottawa.ca.



2011 Budget Process

The 2011 budget process is underway. As part of the process, City staff have organized five multi-ward, bilingual consultations across the city. Senior City staff from key departments will be participating and will be available to answer residents' questions. I encourage residents to participate in this important process to help shape the 2012 budget. Meeting details are as follows:

Dates and locations:

South	Tuesday, February 22	Nepean Sportsplex Halls A/B	7 to 9 p.m.
West	Wednesday, February 23	Holy Trinity Catholic School, Kanata	7 to 9 p.m.
Rural	Thursday, February 24	Stuart Holmes Arena, Osgoode	7 to 9 p.m.
East	Monday, February 28	Shenkman Arts Centre (Theatre)	7 to 9 p.m.
Central	Thursday, March 3	City Hall (Andrew Haydon Hall)	7 to 9 p.m.

You are Cordially Invited to... Maria McRae's First River Ward Family Day Skate

Date: Family Day - Monday, February 21, 2011

Time: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Jim Durrell Recreation Complex
1264 Walkley Road

Bus Route: 8

This Family Day, please join me, your friends and neighbours for an afternoon of fun filled with plenty of skating, music, delightful snacks, hot drinks and more to make this an enjoyable and memorable event. Skates are optional but smiles are required!

Please visit your local community centre to pick up your complimentary ticket(s). As space is limited, tickets are first come, first served.

Alexander Community Centre
960 Silver Street

Carleton Heights Community Centre
1665 Apeldoorn Avenue

Hunt Club-Riverside Park Community Centre
3320 Paul Anka Drive

Ashcroft Merivale Road Development

Thank you to Central Park residents who attended the Public Meeting on December 13, 2010 to review the concept plan for the redevelopment of the west side of Merivale Road between Central Park Drive South and the shopping plaza near Central Park Drive North. The concept plan features a mixed-use development incorporating residential, retail and office space in the design. Spectacular landscaping, a pedestrian/cycling friendly pathway network and new sidewalks away from Merivale Road and within the new development were part of the focus. Overall, feedback from the community was very positive.

The next steps are as follows:

1. Ashcroft's team will review comments from the community, the Design Review Panel and City staff prior to finalizing their zoning application. They are expected to file an application with the City of Ottawa early this year.
2. The zoning application will be circulated via mail within 120 metres of the development as per requirements under the Planning Act. I will also let you know about the application via e-mail and direct you to the City's website once the documents are posted.
3. City of Ottawa staff will write a report about the application and the report will appear at the City's Planning Committee for consideration and then to full City Council.

I will keep you advised about any updates regarding this redevelopment.

Snow Go and Snow Go Assist: Helping Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

We all know that Ottawa winters are tricky, messy and cold. On average we receive 235 cm of snow and an increasing amount of rain and freezing rain. Keeping our private driveway and walkways clear of snow and ice is challenging for all of us.

The City of Ottawa's **Snow Go Program** provides a matching service for seniors and persons with disabilities who are looking to hire an individual or contractor to clear snow from private driveways and walkways. Through the **Snow Go Assist Program**, low-income seniors and persons with disabilities are eligible to apply for financial assistance.

If you are interested in these programs, please call my office at 613-580-2486.

Green Bin Program

In less than one year, Ottawa residents helped divert 53,000 tonnes of organic waste from the landfill through the Green Bin Program.

To make using your green bin easier this winter, here are some cold weather tips to help prevent material from freezing in the green bin:

- If possible, store your green bin in the garage during the winter months
- Crumpled newspaper in the bottom of the bin will help prevent contents from freezing inside
- Spray the bottom of your green bin with cooking oil to prevent freezing
- Set out your green bin the morning of collection day (before 7 a.m.) rather than the night before
- Wrap wet food waste (e.g. meat, fish, fruit and vegetables) in old newspapers, used paper towels or cereal boxes or try used popcorn, sugar, flour or potato paper bags to hold your material
- Put your liquid food waste, such as cooking oil and bacon grease, in a milk carton
- Use leaf and yard waste paper bags to line your green bin

Over the winter months green bin collection takes place every two weeks. Weekly green bin collection will begin again in April 2011.

City Seeks Public Input for Review of Residential Waste Collection

The City's Environmental Services Department is reviewing residential garbage and recycling collection services and is seeking public input on the different options being considered. The Solid Waste Service Level Review (SLR) is focused on the blue and black box, the Green Bin, as well as garbage (residual waste) collection. The City's Yellow Bag Program for small businesses, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and the *Take it Back!* program will also be examined.

This review will determine if any changes to waste collection programs are needed. As Chair of the City's Environment Committee, I encourage you to complete the questionnaire at www.ottawa.ca/wastereview and attend one of the public consultations listed below:

Saturday, January 22

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Carlingwood Mall
2121 Carlingwood Ave.

Sunday, January 23

Noon to 4:30 p.m.
Herongate Mall
1670 Heron Rd.

Saturday, January 29

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Bayshore Shopping Centre
100 Bayshore Dr.

Your input and feedback is important and will inform how the city will collect your garbage, recycling and green bin.

Integrated Road Safety Program (IRSP)

November Results

Red light running was the dominant charge laid in the City's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) in **November** – accounting for **353 of the 407 total charges laid**.

The other two focus areas resulted in a total of **52 charges – 18 for the improper use of Reserved Transit Lanes** and **36 for travelling the wrong way on roadways**.

December Results

Impaired driving and speeding were on the City's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) radar in **December**. A total of **905 charges** were laid in **December**.

Specifically, **803 tickets were issued for speeding** and the **impaired driving initiative resulted in 91 alcohol-related criminal charges** (the result of **57 drivers caught driving under the influence**), **7 Highway Traffic Act alcohol violations for novice / young drivers** and **4 Liquor Act violations for open / unsealed alcohol in vehicles**.

During the **three IRSP/CAA-sponsored R.I.D.E. initiatives** conducted in **December**, approximately **2,000 vehicles were stopped**, **two drivers were charged with impaired driving** and **four 3-day driver's license suspensions were handed out**.

January Initiative

The City of Ottawa's Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) is ringing in the New Year with a crackdown on **tailgaters** and **stop sign runners**.

In **2009**, **tailgating caused 4,973 rear-end collisions** – the most frequent type of collision accounting for one-third of Ottawa's total collisions. These collisions resulted in **one death and 1,373 injuries** – **17 of them life-threatening**.

Disobeying stop signs – including rolling stops – is also a serious issue on Ottawa roads. In **2009**, **1,667 collisions at stop sign-controlled intersections** resulted in **one death and 462 injuries** – **17 of them life-threatening**.