

Chair's report September 11, 2018

Greenfield at Concord N pedestrian cross-over (PXO) update

- Flashing beacons were installed on July 3 at the northeast & northwest corner of Greenfield at Concord N. Hopefully this will help to make this a much safer intersection.

Rideau River Bridge Multi-use Pathway (MUP)

- some good news! The multi-use pathway on the west side of the Rideau River Transit Bridge re-opened to pedestrians and cyclists on Friday July 6th

- we were told some sealing work remained to be completed along the bridge, and this could require an additional closure of 1-3 days. This was anticipated to occur in August or September (not sure if this has already happened or not)

Meeting with President of Glebe Community Association

- I met with Sarah Viehbeck in early July to discuss issues and concerns of our 2 communities, compare Board and committee structures, and consider how we can better work together

- Sarah hopes to join us at our October Board meeting and I plan to attend the Glebe meeting that month as well

Rideau Canal dock in OOE

- I am very happy to report that paddling access to the canal was restored when a dock was installed at Hazel in mid-July; the dock was not re-installed at Clegg due to city concerns of safety due to the bridge construction

- thank you very much to Parks Canada, our MP Catherine McKenna and the local residents who advocated passionately for access

LED retrofit initiative

- in response to several e-mails from residents of OOE, the Councillor's office supplied the following information on July 30:

"As part of the LED retrofit initiative, the City is also installing a control system, which will communicate with the new LED street lights to monitor their operation and dim them to the appropriate light levels. Dimming capability will allow the City to more precisely set light levels and manage the intensity of the light produced by LED fixtures in order to provide a healthier

and safer environment. This controls system should actually make a major improvement to light pollution.

At first, however, the new LED fixtures operate brighter than required until the smart node can communicate with the controls system to receive its dimming instructions."

- if residents are finding the lights too bright on their street, they can contact the Councillor's office or 3-1-1 so that the retrofit contractor can be contacted to adjust the brightness

Main Street:

Main Street road safety audit

- A presentation is planned for the September 11 monthly Board meeting to highlight the results of the Road Safety Audit. The City's Senior Engineer for Road Safety along with the consultant for the Audit will be at our meeting; note there will also be an opportunity for questions and discussion.

Main Street mural

- following from the work of the Ministry of Transportation, the artists returned to Ottawa to repair the mural on Main St. They worked through the weekend of July 13-15 to restore the flowers and stained glass panels.

Main Street trees

- the City has now replaced a number of the dead / dying trees on Main Street (in front of Montessori, a couple of trees just north of Springhurst, all the dead trees south of Clegg on the east side and the tree in the centre of the Rideau River Drive cul-de-sac)

- Forestry has now taken over the watering of the trees in the silva cells north of Clegg; pruning has also been done

- the City has also removed the dead sod in the boulevards south of Clegg and replaced it by hydro-seeding drought and salt tolerant grasses and other ground cover; hopefully this will be more successful!

Community Activism in Action:

- There were a number of rallies / gatherings over the summer to highlight issues of concern to local residents:

Save our trees

- this campaign focused on the preservation of the 2 very large sugar maples on the NW corner of Phase 2 of Greystone Village; Regional has agreed to consider alternative construction plans to allow these trees to continue to prosper; they have withdrawn their request for tree removal permits until (at least) September 30

Neighbours for community fields

- the press interviewed a number of residents who live close to Immaculata field in late August, just prior to (& then after) the August 28 discussion at the City's Planning Committee

- the discussion at the August 28 meeting was to consider the City staff report which included a recommendation to limit lighting to 9:00pm Sunday-Thursday and 10:00pm on Friday and Saturday; this was accepted by the majority of the City Planning Committee members

173 Glenora - a case for better infill development

- a rally on August 30 turned out to be just days before the developer indicated he would not be appealing the Committee of Adjustment denial of the minor variance requests for this site, on which he had intended to build a triplex

Ottawa Canal Walls Replacement – Echo Drive section

- I received the following information from Parks Canada in the form of a Community Update in August:

"Beginning this fall, 262 metres of Ottawa Canal Walls along Echo Drive will undergo replacement. Work will include reconstruction of the wall and the multi-use pathway. Safety features such as the railings will also be replaced. During construction, a pedestrian detour will be in place. Further details will be communicated as we draw nearer to the start of construction. Repairs to this section of the Ottawa Canal Walls are expected to complete in fall 2019."

Interesting commentary on OOE cycling

- John passed along a link to commentary and pictures of pathways in our neighbourhood in early August:

<http://hansonthebike.com/2018/07/31/hurdman-bridge-new-pathway/#comment-179>

West Nile Virus - Van patrolling Old Ottawa East

- in response to an e-mail from a local resident to the Councillor's office, we were told on August 9 that the truck seen patrolling would be one owned by the contractors hired by the City to conduct the work commissioned by Ottawa Public Health, i.e.,

"Ottawa Public Health has a control plan to reduce the risk of the West Nile virus (WNV) and eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). It includes:

- Public education on personal protection against mosquitoes;
- Surveillance in the mosquito and human population;
- Mosquito traps are placed around the City to determine species and densities of mosquitoes. Subsequent tests are carried out on a weekly basis for WNV and EEE;

- Mosquito larvae surveillance of natural and manmade standing water sites located on City property is ongoing;
- A biological larvicide ([Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis - Bti](#)) is used on surface waters (e.g., ditches, storm water management ponds) throughout the season and applied as needed.
- A chemical larvicide ([methoprene](#)) is used to treat non-surface waters. Every City owned roadside catch basin is treated a minimum of three times per season. If you have a backyard catch basin on your property and would like to have it appropriately treated for WNV, please contact [OPH](#).
- Source reduction of mosquito breeding sites on City-owned property;
- Mosquito control using adulticide (malathion) would only be used in circumstances deemed absolutely necessary. Evidence of intense transmission in birds, and/or mosquitoes as well as human disease would be used to take this decision. While malathion has never been used in Ottawa, the decision to adulticide rests with the Medical Officer of Health and would depend on updated risk assessments."

OOE in the news

- on Friday, August 17, the following article appeared in the Real Estate section of the Globe and Mail

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/real-estate/article-old-ottawa-east-new-again/>

Dogs in parks

- the consultative process contemplated for the spring of this year was delayed by unexpected staff vacancies; given the current election period, the earliest that consultation will now be possible is late October

- the Councillor's latest newsletter of August 17 provides a link to the plans that will be presented during the consultation:

<http://capitalward.ca/index.php/ward-newsletter/latest#anchor10>

Derelict buildings in OOE

- a resident of the Archville Triangle area cc'ed me in his message to the Councillor on August 21 in which he raised concerns about 2 derelict buildings at the corner of Concord North and Greenfield, i.e., the semi-detached dwellings at #24 and #26 Concord North which were vacated after a serious fire in the building 2 years ago and the old Royal Canadian Legion Building on the other side of Concord North at 99 Greenfield which has been vacant for almost 10 years

- similar issues have arisen in other parts of our community in the past, and seem to me to highlight a problem with the difficulty of structures being maintained in the period between:

1. when a decision is taken that the current structure will not be retained and a demolition will be necessary and

2. the actual issuing of a new building permit for the site

- this leaves the neighbours of the properties rightly concerned about health and safety issues as the properties continue to deteriorate

Springhurst Park

- finally the incredibly well used basketball court has had its final resurfacing

- this was quite a saga, but thanks to CAG, the Sandy Hill Community Health Centre and finally the City for agreeing to fix the pooling problem; hopefully the latest construction efforts will work

- and watch for info re Vision Springhurst 2019; this is an attempt by local residents to make a very good park into a perfect park by augmenting the existing equipment with a variety of new equipment that will appeal to youth, adults and seniors. The Facebook page will be going live soon.

Capital Ward All Candidates Debate

- hold the date of Thursday, September 27 for a municipal councillors' debate at the Glebe Community Centre, 175 Third Avenue from 7:00-9:00pm

- this event is organized by Capital Ward community associations; thank you Ron and Jaime for being the OOE representatives

- FYI I am including a link to the CBC Ottawa site which provides the results of their survey of candidates for Capital Ward:

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/ottawa/ottawa-municipal-election-2018-councillor-mayor-candidates-1.4801476>

Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the OOECA and CAG

- hold the date of Tuesday, November 13 for our AGM in conjunction with the Community Activities Group

- we will once again be meeting at the Church of the Ascension; registration / memberships available starting at 7:00pm with the formal meeting from 7:15-9:00pm and a chance to meet after this in the parish basement hall for a social hour, including beverages and goodies

- also watch for members of our community knocking on doors to sell memberships in the coming weeks; a great deal at \$3 per household