

September 18 2008 Ward e-Update

City Councillor PETER MILCZYN

Ward 5 Etobicoke-Lakeshore

Dear Residents;

I hope that everyone had a great summer. If this *e*-update does not cover a Ward or City issue important to you, please email me back and I will provide you with a response.

If you are opening this on your **BLACKBERRY**, the layout may be difficult to read. If so, just forward this to your PC and open again from that location.

I ENCOURAGE YOU TO ASK YOUR NEIGHBOURS & FAMILY TO EMAIL ME and HAVE THEIR EMAIL ADDRESSES ADDED TO THIS WARD 5 DISTRIBUTION LIST

WHAT'S IN THIS *e*-UPDATE

WARD 5 NEWS & EVENTS

Park Lawn Junior Middle School Fall Fair

ETOBICOKE YORK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NEXT MEETING OF EYCC (Etobicoke York Community Council)

COUNCIL NEWS & TORONTO EVENTS

Strong Mayor Public Consultation

Mimico waterfront Linear Park Community Newsletter

Sign By-law Project Summary

City of Toronto New Initiative "Pedestrian Priority Phase", at Yonge and Dundas

Council Highlights of the City Council meeting of July 15, 16 and 17, 2008

Next City Council Meeting

WARD 5 NEWS & EVENTS

PARK LAWN JUNIOR MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL FAIR

Date: Saturday, October 4, 2008

Time: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Location: Park Lawn JMS, 71 Ballacaine Drive (Prince Edward and Berry Road)

ETOBICOKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE

NEXT MEETING OF EYCC (Etobicoke York Community Council)

Tuesday, October 7th, 2008

9:30 a.m.

**Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall
Council Chambers**

To view the entire Community Council Agenda or minutes from previous meetings, please refer to the following City of Toronto website link: <http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2007/agendas/ey.htm>

NOTE – at the time of sending this update, the October Community Council Agenda is not public, and therefore I have not had the opportunity to review and list all Ward 5 items which will be voted upon. If you have questions about the Agenda, please refer to the above link or call my office for assistance.

PREVIOUS COMMUNITY COUNCIL DECISIONS

For more information on your Etobicoke York Community Council, the area profile, agendas or reports etc., please refer to the following weblink as I believe you will find it useful and informative:

http://www.toronto.ca/committees/council_profiles/torontowest.htm

CITY COUNCIL NEWS & TORONTO EVENTS

‘STRONG MAYOR’ PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2008
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: York Civic Centre, 2700 Eglinton Avenue West

On Tuesday, September 23rd, 2008 at 7 pm, there will be another **Strong Mayor Public Consultation** taking place at the York Civic Centre (2700 Eglinton Avenue West). This meeting is the fourth in a series of meetings being sponsored by a group of Councillors. The question for open discussion and dialogue is ‘should the Mayor of Toronto have increased powers?’.

At the previous three meetings, the feedback was largely in opposition to the proposed new powers of the Mayor. The current suggested increased powers would allow the Mayor to hire/fire the City Manager, and to conduct private meetings (in camera) of his self-appointed Executive Committee. Should the added powers be granted? Should that occur mid-term? Should this change occur without public consultation with the Mayor? This meeting is the perfect opportunity for Councillors to hear arguments on this topic, and for you to have your say.

ONTARIO URBAN FOREST COUNCIL 2008 CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, October 16, 2008
Location: Toronto Botanical Garden
777 Leslie Street
For more info: Please call **416-936-6735** or
e-mail info@oufc.org
www.oufc.org

Attend the 1008 OUFC Conference to learn how the various components (under story plant species, insects and wildlife, water and soil) make up the Urban Forest.

Find out how urban development has changed and comprised the natural balance and what can be done to preserve Urban Forests for the future

MIMICO WATERFRONT LINEAR PARK COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Please be advised that the Mimico Waterfront Linear Park Community Newsletter, Summer 2008 is now available on-line and can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.trca.on.ca/MimicoWaterfrontLinearPark>

SIGN BY-LAW PROJECT SUMMARY

It has been more than ten years since Toronto was amalgamated and, with the exception of some specific amendments, the by-laws of all of the former municipalities governing permanent signs are still in force today.

In response, Toronto Building is working towards the creation of a **single Sign By-law to regulate permanent signs**. Permanent signs include: roof signs, fascia (wall) signs, free-standing (ground) signs and billboards. A proposed draft by-law and enforcement protocol is expected to be completed by the summer of 2009.

The new Sign By-law will recognize Toronto's beautification and heritage goals, as well as review 'special areas' that reflect unique characteristics throughout the City. The Sign By-law project will also explore ways that signage will support the City's efforts in climate change and energy conservation. And in response to Council's recommendation October 2007, the project will consider the potential application of a billboard or public signage tax specifically for the purposes of raising revenue to administer the by-law and raise revenues for city beautification, arts or cultural initiatives

The Sign By-law Project will seek to create regulations for the future rather than harmonize regulations from the past. New technologies such as digital projection and other electronic signs, as well as the wide spread use of vinyl materials creates a challenge. A thorough review of these matters will be undertaken as part of the Sign By-law project and appropriate provisions will be developed to properly regulate these new technologies and materials.

We invite you to participate in one of our public consultation sessions.

Please visit our website at www.toronto.ca/signbylawproject for details about the public consultations.

For more information you can:

1. Visit our website at: www.toronto.ca/signbylawproject ;
2. E-mail us at signbylawproject@toronto.ca ; or,
3. Phone us at 416-392-8000.

CITY OF TORONTO NEW INITIATIVE "PEDESTRIAN PRIORITY PHASE" AT YONGE AND DUNDAS

The City's Transportation Services Division is launching a new initiative at the intersection of Yonge and Dundas involving a Pedestrian Priority Phase.

This will allow pedestrians to cross in all directions including diagonally while drivers in all directions will have a red signal. The project was officially launched on Thursday, August 28, 2008.

The City of Toronto is signalling a new way of looking at planning, designing and operating its transportation system and infrastructure. The Pedestrian Priority Phase, also known as an exclusive pedestrian phase, allows

pedestrians to cross in all directions at an intersection including diagonally. This type of installation has been implemented successfully in other jurisdictions and has led to a significant reduction in pedestrian/vehicle collisions. Timing of lights at intersections will be adjusted to allow pedestrians to safely clear the intersection.

Do you have questions?

1. Why is the City implementing this new mode of crossing?

The City must look at new and innovative ways of maximizing the use of its transportation infrastructure. The Pedestrian Priority Phase is consistent with the policies and objectives contained in the City's Official Plan and Climate Change Plan.

2. What benefits are likely to be achieved?

The Pedestrian Priority Phase allows pedestrians to cross in either direction, including diagonally, making it easier to continue with their journey. It is also expected to be safer for pedestrians since there are fewer conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles.

3. What is the next intersection being considered for this type of installation?

Transportation Services staff will monitor this intersection and will make sure that it is operating satisfactorily before proceeding with any additional installations.

4. Are there any drawbacks to implementing this initiative?

The increase in cycle length at the intersection can mean a longer wait time for vehicles. The City and Toronto Police will monitor the intersection to determine if this is becoming a problem.

5. What impact will this have on people who are blind or visually impaired?

There is a concern for people who are blind or visually impaired as the normal street traffic noise would not be there to guide them. In response to this concern, the City will improve the Accessible Pedestrian Signals.

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**Toronto City Council
September 24th and 25th, 2008
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, Council Chamber**

For more information Council agendas, please refer to the following City website link:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2007/agendas/cc.htm>

If you wish to make a submission to Toronto City Council, please review the following instructions and comments from the City Clerks office.

The City Clerk's Office may receive individual correspondence or other information containing personal information on an agenda item for a meeting agenda. It is our policy not to publish personal information on the Internet. If you wish to review or obtain a copy of any individual correspondence pertaining to an item on a meeting agenda, please contact the City Clerk's Office.

Notice to People Writing to City Council:

The City of Toronto collects any personal information in your correspondence to Toronto City Council or its committees under the City of Toronto Act 2006 and the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

The City of Toronto collects any personal information in your communication to Toronto City Council or its committees under the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and the City of Toronto Municipal Code.

The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). Individuals who submit letters and other information should be aware that any personal information in their communication will

become part of the public record. The City will make it available to the public, unless the individual expressly requests the City to remove the personal information.

Please direct any questions to:

City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 100 Queen St. West

Toronto ON M5H 2N2

or call 416-392-7032

If you do not wish to receive my e-Updates, please email me back and request that your name be removed from this distribution list.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Mingos". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent underline.

Please consider the environment before printing this email note.

Avant d'imprimer, pensez à l'environnement!