



DPRG Newsletter September 2020

President's Message

The DPRG hopes that you have had a safe and happy summer.

We are now getting back to work on your behalf following our first virtual AGM last June, when we reported on the events of the past year. We will have our first Board meeting at the end of September but wanted to share some time-sensitive information. See below for a coming Safety Awareness event and a survey that is open until October 1st.

Last spring, we were hoping to be able to hold an in-person Members Meeting this Fall but that now seems unlikely. We will be speaking with our Councillor about arranging a virtual Townhall so watch for notice by email. And, if you have not done so, please renew to make sure you get the notice (link just below).

Finally, we have some vacancies on the Board and are always open to including volunteers on committees relating to particular issues. We are especially hoping to hear from members who wish to assist with our website and other technology issues. Let us know if you want to get involved!

Cynthia Cryster

President, DPRG

Reminder - If you have not renewed your membership, see on line and mail options at <https://deerparkresidents.ca/join/> .

Concerned about the environmental and health impacts of the use of two stroke gas powered garden equipment?

The DPRG Board supported the City initiative to study these impacts and to consider restricting their use, approved at the September 17 meeting of the City Infrastructure and Environment Committee and to be considered by City Council on September 30. Board member Chris Keating has been actively promoting restricting their use and as a result a number of his neighbours have already stopped using them. See the motion approved by the Committee at <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.IE15.8>

Participate in the Avenue Road Safety Coalition Safety Awareness Day, September 29

The DPRG is participating in the **Safety Awareness Day** with other residents associations along Avenue Road south of St. Clair and De La Salle Oaklands to increase awareness of the need for safety improvements and wider sidewalks along Avenue Road. Both Councillors Matlow and Layton support this initiative.

Your participation is invited for two events on September 29:

- at 10 am, a gathering of representatives of the participating organizations at the Jay Macpherson Park (Avenue Road and Macpherson) and/or
- at about 10.30 am, for a photoshoot of Deer Park residents with our sign supporting the safety initiatives at an Avenue Road, location tba.

For further information or if you are interested in participating, contact please contact cathie.macdonald@sympatico.ca.

Affected by construction in your neighbourhood? Take the short City Buildings survey of their services, now due October 1

City Buildings is undertaking a survey of residents' opinions of their services regarding information about what they do and how to get information and make complaints regarding building permits and construction inspections. The DPRG is passing the survey on to those of you who have used their services or have been affected by projects. Take the short survey <https://advisorysurveys.kpmg.ca/se/7FDA9ED369FB80FA>

Yonge Bikeway study approved for south of St. Clair to Lawrence!

Deer Park Residents Group and other residents' associations along Yonge, as well as BIAs and schools are supporting bikes lanes along Yonge as an important alternative to the Yonge subway line during Covid. Bike lanes help businesses along the route, as data shows for other streets such as Bloor.

According to a recent Ekos Research poll for The David Suzuki Foundation, 84 per cent of respondents supported the construction of protected bike lanes in Toronto and that 85 per cent agreed the city needs to do more to protect vulnerable road users, including people who are walking, seniors, kids, and people on bikes.

On September 17, the Infrastructure and Environment Committee asked for a study "as part of either the 2021 update to the cycling network plan, the COVID-19 pandemic cycling network expansion response plan or potentially as part of the YongeTOMorrow process, a temporary protected bikeway along Yonge Street from south of St. Clair Avenue to north of Lawrence Avenue in conjunction with on-street patios, road safety and

traffic-calming measures, and other streetscape improvements identified through consultation with local businesses and community groups with implementation by the second quarter of 2021, and iteration and evaluation throughout 2021.” To be considered by City Council on September 30.

Update - Deer Park development applications

One Delisle	Slate condo and retail building and park - approved by City Council in July at 44 storeys following support from Councillor Matlow’s community consultation meeting.
Avenue Road/ Balmoral	Amica retirement home and assisted living – City Working Committee meetings ongoing, outstanding issue: protecting neighbouring residents from shadowing and overlook.
Yonge/Rosehill	Daniels assisted living proposal – outstanding issue scale and character of Yonge Street frontage. Councillor Matlow to hold virtual public consultation in near future.
Yonge/Heath/Alvin	Wittington block proposal for condos and retail and open space – Revised proposal being submitted with reduced heights and density to be reviewed by City Working Committee.
29 Pleasant Blvd	34 storey Condo building and replacing public lane with park – Public meeting held pre Covid and revised plans now undergoing Planning staff review.
101 Heath W	Committee of Adjustment proposal for replacing a house with a small apartment building – Councillor Matlow to hold a virtual public consultation meeting.

Concerned about development affecting the quality of life in Deer Park?

We were asked to provide you with the opportunity to complete this survey, link below, from our Councillor Josh Matlow.

https://joshmatlow.ca/local-planning-now/?fbclid=IwAR0NVjh1_XroFot50bZ5P1gcpWAMaz-Y7Uy8Vs2ABkt0vC7S1OE7PQ9c4Qo