



Rick Johnson, Councillor Ward 3
City of Pickering — Region of Durham

SUMMER 2009 NEWSLETTER

Greetings Ward 3 Residents

This newsletter is intended to keep you informed of the work that we are doing at City Hall on your behalf, the various activities taking place in your community, and how we are carefully managing your taxes.

Upcoming Community Events

July 5th to August 30th — Treble in the Park Concerts every Sunday afternoon, 2-4 pm, Esplanade Park
June 25th to October 8th (Thursdays, 3 to 7 pm) - Farmers' Market, Arena Parking Lot, Pickering Recreation Complex
August 16th — India's 62st Independence Day, Pickering Civic Complex
September 19th — Greenwood Festival, Greenwood Community Centre
September 13th — Terry Fox Run, Pickering Recreation Complex
September 17th — Rick Johnson's Annual Charity Golf Tournament, Cherry Downs Golf Course
September 18th, 25th and 26th — A Spirit Walk, evening performances at Pickering Museum Village
September 19th — Anniversary Celebration of the Pickering Recreation Complex
October 4th — Fall Family Festival, Pickering Museum Village
November 14th — Santa Claus Parade

Municipal Property & Engineering

Pickering Museum Village — Restoration of the Brougham Central Hotel has commenced and is expected to be completed by September 2009. Plans are underway to lift the existing log barn and provide a proper concrete foundation.

Mary Christian House in Whitevale — Restorative work is being planned and quotes are being received for the provision of power to the building. Staff will be working closely with the Residents Association to determine the next steps.

Brougham Hall — Improvements to the theatre lighting systems, electrical systems and general painting are planned for this year.

Rossland Road/Third Concession Improvements (Ajax & Pickering) — The purpose of the Environmental Assessment is to determine an appropriate design for a proposed road widening along Rossland Road and Third Concession from Brock Road to Westney Road in Ajax. Notice of Study Completion has not been issued.

Rockwood Drive Extension - Rockwood Drive has now been extended from Hogarth Street to Proxhill Street.

York-Durham Line (York Region Road 30) — The detailed design for York-Durham Line is underway.

Whitevale Bridge — The detail design for bridge deck rehabilitation to be approved shortly.

Old Brock Road — The final lift of asphalt is complete.

Sideline 4 Phase II — Road Reconstruction and drainage improvements from Highway #7 to 1200 metres south have been completed.

Storm Sewer Rehabilitation — Detail study of existing storm sewer system in Claremont is ongoing.

Wellington Street & Victoria Street — Storm Sewer improvements are underway.

North Townline and 5th Concession — Sections of this road have been repaired as needed.

Gravel Roads — The magnesium chloride dust suppressant program to alleviate dust on gravel roads is complete.

Parks & Playgrounds

Beverly Morgan Park — Bleacher replaced

Village East Park — Playground construction completed

Major Oaks Park — Site line improvements for the play area have been addressed

Planning & Development

Seaton Community — Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Planning Program was adopted by City Council in September 2008. Provincial Natural Heritage System Management Plan has been completed.

Oak Ridges Moraine — Official Plan Policies to implement lands situated within the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan boundaries have been approved by The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Approval from the Minister to bring the existing City Zoning Bylaw into conformity with the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan is still pending.

Southeast Collector Sanitary Trunk Sewer Project (Durham Region & York Region) — Purpose of the project is to accommodate sanitary sewer flows from future growth in York Region. The final Environmental Assessment report for the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) for approval in 2008. A Public Information Forum was held in May 2009 to address a proposed odour control management strategy and the relocation of an Odour Control Facility on York-Durham Line (York Regional Road 30) on the York Region side.

Central Duffins Collector Sanitary Trunk Sewer Environmental Assessment (Durham Region) — Notice of Completion for Central Duffins Collector Sewer extension from Rossland Road to Taunton Road was issued in April 2009.

Petticoat Creek Watershed Plan — (City of Pickering, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority & Rouge Park) — The Petticoat Creek Watershed Plan has been initiated.

Grand Communities (Altona) Corporation (1870 Altona Road) — The owner has submitted a revised Site Plan Application to allow for a mixed-use development comprising of 110 condominium townhouses and a commercial plaza, with a gross leasable floor area of approximately 700 sq. metres. Application is currently going through Site Plan Review.

Smart Centres (Pickering) Wal-Mart & Sobey's —

Proposal to amend the City's Official Plan and rezoning the property to accommodate for additional gross leasable floor area for the future expansions of Wal-Mart and Sobey's. Applications approved by City Council late spring 2009.

Smart Centres (Pickering), Lowe's Home Improvement Store (1899 Brock Road) — The owner has submitted a Site Plan Application to accommodate a future home improvement store in the vacated Sam's Club building. Application is currently going through Site Plan Review.

Duffin Heights Development Proposals — Property owners (Coughlan Homes, Lebovic Enterprises Ltd, Mattamy Homes Ltd. and Ontario Realty Corp) have submitted a series of Zoning Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision applications to allow for a variety of residential and mixed use development blocks. A Notice of Special Planning & Development Committee Meeting was held during the fall of 2008. Mattamy draft plan of subdivision will be considered by City Council in July 2009.

Pickering Town Centre — Proposal for an eight storey (11,250 sq metres) office building to be located southwest of The Bay Department Store. The application is currently going through Site Plan Review.

Valley Farm Road & Kingston Road (Coughlan Homes Kaleidoscope Project) — Proposal for a ten storey apartment building (195 units) and 52 stacked townhomes on the southeast corner. Application is going through Site Plan Review.

Highway 7 Road Widening (Province of Ontario) —

Detailed design is underway to expand Highway 7 from two to four lanes between Brock Road in Pickering to Highway 12 in Whitby. Construction is anticipated to commence by 2010 and is expected to be completed by 2012.

Highway 407 Environmental Assessment (The Province of Ontario) — The Draft Environmental Assessment report has been prepared. Public review of the draft report is scheduled for June 15, 2009 to July 20, 2009.

Office of Sustainability

On Saturday, June 13th, the City held its fourth annual Sustainable Pickering Day at the Pickering Town Centre.

The City of Pickering is working to make its municipal facilities more energy-efficient, launch projects to reduce air pollution and water use, offer leisure programs to bring residents together to help them be more active, and provide business development services.



There are plenty of challenges. Plant trees. Adopt a park. Register with Smart Commute Durham. Join the PeakSaver program. Have an energy audit. Participate in TD's Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. Or start your own sustainability initiative and tell us about it so you can help inspire others. The challenges offer a way to get your family and neighbourhood working together to help improve their surroundings and the community as a whole.

Join us on the journey towards a sustainable Pickering!

Pickering Public Library

Ward 3 is home to the four branches of the Pickering Public Library: the main library and the libraries in the villages of Claremont, Greenwood and Whitevale. These branches have collections of popular materials for adults and children and what isn't readily available can be brought in from other locations. They also have free Internet access with wireless access available at Greenwood and Claremont.

This summer, children and teens are invited to participate in the Summer Reading Club — Agent 009. Children register and read throughout the summer and have a chance to win prizes. Parents will be happy to know that their children are keeping up their reading skills so that they are ready to start back to school in September. For hours of service, please visit the Library's website www.picnet.org. Check out the range of books, audio books, and music available for download 24/7. When everyone is looking for ways to save money, the public library is the best bargain around.

Region of Durham

Altona Road (Durham Region Road 27) Widening — Environmental Study Report is complete. The construction of Phase 1 Altona Rd widening from two to four lanes from Kingston Road to Strouds Lane is scheduled for 2009/2010.

Brock Road Widening — Detailed design has commenced for the widening of Brock Rd from two to four lanes from Dellbrook Avenue to south of the Canadian Pacific (CP) Railway. Construction of Phase 1 (from Dellbrook Avenue to Third Concession Road) anticipated for summer 2009. Construction of Phase 2 (Third Concession Road to south of the Railway) is anticipated for summer 2010.

Greenwood By-Pass — Westney Road (Durham Region Road 31) — Public Information Centre was held June 2009. The purpose of the study is to examine the realignment of Westney Road around the Hamlet of Greenwood.

Other Project Updates: Please refer to the Region of Durham website www.region.durham.on.ca

Durham Region's Works Department won the municipal waste project of the year award from the Municipal Waste Integration Network. The award recognized the region's environmental assessment work on the proposed energy-from-waste facility. Read the entire story: www.durham.ca/news.asp?nr=dnews/2009/jan2909.htm

Clear Bags Pilot Study — This trial program took place from January 12 to April 10 and included about 1,500 homes within two distinct collection routes in Clarington and Pickering. It was a very successful pilot study, with 98 per cent of residents participating. A clear bag program could increase waste diversion in the region by about three per cent, which is about 4,700 tonnes of recyclables and compostables. Still, there are many factors to consider before introducing such a program.

Regional Council accepts the Durham/York Residual Waste Study — June 25, 2009 Durham Region Council approved the Durham/York Residual Waste Study Environmental Assessment for a proposed energy-from-waste facility that will aim to help process the household waste left over after diversion efforts. For the full story: www.durham.ca/news.asp?nr=dnews/2009/jun2409.htm

Durham ranks first in waste diversion among large Ontario cities — for the full story go to: www.durham.ca/news.asp?nr=dnews/2009/feb0509.htm

New at the Customer Care Centre

Service Canada — An officer is now available at Pickering City Hall every Tuesday from 8:30 to 4:30 to help residents get better access to information about Government of Canada programs and services such as: Social Insurance numbers; Employment Insurance; Canada Pension Plan; Newborn Registration; Universal Childcare Benefit; and Canada Education Savings Grant/Canada Learning Bond. This municipal-federal partnership is the only one in Durham, and one of a select few in Ontario! Also, we have implemented a new Service Request feature on the homepage of our website. This will provide residents easy access to submit a request for service or send a question to the Customer Care Centre via www.cityofpickering.com/standard/services/index.html

You can also reach Customer Care by phone at 905-683-7575 or email: customercare@cityofpickering.com

Have a safe and happy summer!

It has been a privilege and an honour to serve the residents of Ward 3 for the last 21 years. There are many challenges when representing an exciting and growing community and I will continue to meet these challenges to the best of my ability. I welcome your calls and look forward to hearing from you.



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