

Toronto City Councillor

Chin Lee

WARD 41 E-NEWS REPORT



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Dear Neighbour,

My most recent newsletter should have been delivered to your mailbox this past week. In it, I had mentioned about our 2 old traffic control management computer systems, and how we will have to upgrade these. I am pleased to report that I had a visit to the Control Centre today and received a briefing on the work that is in progress to upgrade these old systems by our Transportation Department, working with Universities and the private sector. The work will be carried out over the next few years to reduce traffic gridlock with improved traffic control and CCTV systems. I will update my website with the presentation, when I receive an electronic copy of the presentation.

There are many events happening in and around the city, and I hope that you will take some time over the summer to experience the diversity and cultural that Toronto has to offer. One such event is the Scarborough Town Jazz Festival happening at Albert Campbell Square - see <http://scarboroughtownjazzfestival.com/>. This is a North American cultural event. For more events, see below. Enjoy.

Sincerely,

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Opinions about Waste Management Options

Solid Waste Management Services is inviting Torontonians to share their opinions/ideas about managing waste as the City develops its long-term strategy for waste management. The strategy will recommend how Toronto can better reduce, reuse,

recycle and compost its waste and advise on what can be done with the waste that is left over. If you are downtown on the Fresh Wednesdays and Tasty Thursdays events that are held weekly at Nathan Phillips Square, city staff will be available to chat about it one-on-one . More details: <http://tinyurl.com/mkvjav5>.

Stouffville Corridor Rail Service Expansion - Environmental Assessment Complete

GO Transit undertook an Environmental Assessment of the Stouffville railway corridor between Scarborough Junction in Toronto and Unionville GO Station in Markham, Ontario to determine the necessary infrastructure investments that need to be made to improve GO Train service between Union and Mount Joy Stations.

Metrolinx says it will release the results of the Environmental Assessment in the near future. To read the report, visit <http://tinyurl.com/ks5ohmm> and click on the GO Transit Stouffville Railway Corridor Expansion link.

Major Road Resurfacing - McCowan Rd.

Road resurfacing work is scheduled to take place on McCowan Rd. between McNicoll Ave. and Steeles Ave. E. between August 5 - November 30. For more information, visit my website: <http://chinlee41.wordpress.com/2014/07/18/mccowan-road-construction-notice/>.

King's North Connection Project

TransCanada has notified the City of Toronto that it intends to file an application with the National Energy Board in the third quarter of 2014 regarding the King's North Connection project. TransCanada would like to install a 12 km natural gas transmission pipeline that is 36" in diameter just east of Highway 27. The line would begin just north of Finch Ave. W. in Toronto and extend up to Major Mackenzie Dr. in Vaughan. For more information, contact TransCanada at [1-855-895-8752](tel:1-855-895-8752) or kingsnorth@transcanada.com.

4181 Sheppard Ave. E.

In my Spring 2014 newsletter, I informed you that a developer proposed constructing 88 townhouse units, a park and public roads and lanes on the site of the former flea market at Sheppard Ave. E. and Midland Ave. In addition, one block on the south side of Sheppard Ave. E. would be reserved for future mixed-use development.

The application was incomplete at the time and the City of Toronto sought additional information from the developer. The City recently received the completed application and a report on this proposed development will be submitted to the Scarborough Community Council meeting on August 12.

Public Safety and Police Investigations

Police are prohibited from releasing information when investigating any case, until they confirm information and then review what can be made public without compromising the case. However, if a community safety issue has been identified, they will inform the local Councillor and the community. The public can get information by going to www.torontopolice.on.ca/d42. They can also sign-up for alerts from 42 Division at: <https://secure.torontopolice.on.ca/tpsml/#>.

Improvements to be Made to Toronto Track and Field Centre for Pan Am Games

On May 6, 2014, The City of Toronto accepted \$5 million from the Government of Canada to fund improvements to the Toronto Track and Field Centre at York University. The facility will be renovated, receive a new track surface and a 12,000 sq.² addition will be constructed.

The Toronto Track and Field Centre will be used as an official warm-up and training venue for the 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Am Games. Athletics Canada will pay nominal rent for using the facility and will be responsible for any and all operating and capital maintenance costs. The Pan Am/Parapan Am Athletics Stadium is currently under construction at York University and will host athletics, throwing and jumping competitions.

In preparation for the Pan Am Games, all three levels of government are working together to build 10 new sporting venues and renovate 15 existing facilities. The \$205 million Pan Am Aquatics Centre is currently under construction at the University of Toronto Scarborough and Birchmount Stadium will receive track upgrades. Many schools in Scarborough use Birchmount Stadium for athletics competitions.

Crossing the Street Safely

Every year pedestrians are killed or injured crossing the street in Toronto. The majority of these accidents are preventable. The safest way to cross the street is to use the pedestrian crossing buttons and obey pedestrian signals. It also helps to look both ways before crossing the street and to proceed across the crosswalk with caution. Remember, just because you have the right of way doesn't mean you should cross the street if you cannot do so safely.

Intersections with a high volume of traffic such as Finch Ave. E and McCowan Rd. do not have "pedestrian push-buttons." These types of intersections contain fixed time signals that change the traffic and pedestrian lights in a sequential order. Many other intersections across the city do have "pedestrian push-buttons." When a pedestrian presses the "pedestrian push-button" at a traffic light, a signal is sent to the traffic light, which lets the system know a pedestrian would like to cross the street. It may take up to two minutes before the pedestrian signal changes.

Pedestrians may be able to cross the street safely once the pedestrian signal changes to the "walking person" symbol and when traffic has come to a complete stop. When the "flashing help hand" symbol is displayed, pedestrians who have already started crossing the street should continue to do so. However, pedestrians who have not started crossing the street should not begin walking across the intersection. The "steady halting hand" signal tells pedestrians that they cannot cross the street as they no longer have the right of way.

The City of Toronto also uses auditory accessible signals that are linked to the visual traffic signal system. This auditory accessible signal system allows pedestrians who are visually impaired to cross the street safely. It informs them when it is safe to cross the street and in which direction.

Pedestrian signals emit a chime called a "locator beacon." This sound allows visually impaired pedestrians to locate the "pedestrian push-button." Most audible signals to cross the street are activated only when a pedestrian presses and holds the "pedestrian push-button" for three seconds or more, which also initiates the countdown to change the traffic and pedestrian lights.

Once the light changes to the "walking person" symbol, the audible signal will emit a different noise. A "cuckoo" sound notifies pedestrians that they can cross the intersection in the north/south direction while a "chirping" sound informs them that they can cross the street in the east/west direction. When the countdown begins it indicates that the traffic light will change colours. At this time, the "cuckoo" or "chirping" sounds will stop. This notifies visually impaired pedestrians that it is no longer safe to cross the street.

FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup Coming to Toronto

Edmonton, Moncton, Montreal and Toronto will play host to the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup. The tournament will run from August 5 – 24, 2014.

BMO Field will host 7 matches on 4 different dates (see figure below). Canada will host Ghana on Tuesday, August 5 and will play Finland on Friday, August 8. Both games are scheduled for 8:00 P.M. at BMO Field. Toronto will host one of four quarter-final matches on Saturday, August 16.

Toronto Schedule – BMO Field

Date	Match-up	Time
Tuesday, August 5 Opening Ceremony	Finland vs. Korea DPR Canada vs. Ghana	5:00 P.M. EST 8:00 P.M. EST
Friday August 8	Ghana vs. Korea DPR Canada vs. Finland	5:00 P.M. EST 8:00 P.M. EST
Wednesday, August 13	Costa Rica vs. New Zealand Korea Republic vs. Mexico	5:00 P.M. EST 8:00 P.M. EST
Saturday, August 16	Quarter-Final: TBD	5:00 P.M. EST

Canada finds itself in Group A with North Korea, Ghana and Finland. For more information, visit <http://toronto2014.fwwc2015.ca/>. To purchase tickets, visit <http://www.fifa.com/u20womensworldcup/organisation/ticketing/index.html>.

EVENTS (for even more events, see www.toronto.ca/events)

Sunday Concert Series – Scarborough Civic Centre – 150 Borough Dr. – 2 pm to 4 pm

The Sunday Concert Series runs every Sunday from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Scarborough Civic Centre. There are no concerts scheduled on the final two Sundays of the year in December. For more information on this free event, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/ljx9mdm>.

July 9th – August 27th, 2014 – 10 am to 2 pm – Fresh Wednesdays – Nathan Phillips Square – 100 Queen St. W.

Pick up fresh produce and baked goods at Nathan Phillips Square's Farmer Market. Enjoy live music during the noon hour while you shop. For more information: <http://tinyurl.com/mndxng>.

July 10th – August 28th, 2014 – 11 am to 2 pm – Tasty Thursdays – Nathan Phillips Square – 100 Queen St. W.

Do you work downtown? Stop by Nathan Phillips Square for lunch and enjoy the public garden on City Hall's green roof to enhance the dining experience. For more information: <http://tinyurl.com/pbg7rhb>.

July 13th – August 2nd, 2014 – Toronto Caribbean Carnival

The Toronto Caribbean Carnival is an exciting 3 week cultural celebration of Caribbean music and cuisine. For more information: <http://www.torontocaribbeancarnival.com/>.

August 5th, 2014 – Toronto Public Library Adult Book Club – Woodside Square Library – 1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.

The Toronto Public Library Adult Book Club occurs every Tuesday at 1:30 P.M. at the Woodside Square Public Library Branch.