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**! Remember our web site: [www.councillordiciano.ca](http://www.councillordiciano.ca) !**

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### **Community Meetings and Being an Informed Resident!**

The Councillor's office holds numerous community and other meetings in the Ward. We confirm the attendance of senior staff from; Parks & Forestry, Transportation, MLS, Toronto Build and Planning. We ask staff to attend so that your questions on process, policy and other issues may be addressed by professionals. We urge you to attend when you can to better inform yourself.

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### **Mabelle Community Meeting**

Councillor Justin Di Ciano is pleased to host a community meeting for Mabelle and area residents. The Agenda item is the revitalization and upgrading of the Mabelle Parkette. Councillor Di Ciano and staff will be present to listen to what residents would like to see added to their park!

**Date & Time:** TBC – Late April/early May

**Location:** 41 Mabelle Avenue, Recreation Room

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### **Remember 311 for Service Complaints**

311 is the largest, most exciting customer service improvement undertaken by the City of Toronto since amalgamation. 311 improves accessibility to non-emergency City services and information and increases the City's effectiveness in responding to public inquiries.

Please remember to use 311 first. Only if 311 does not address your concern in the time advised should you contact the Councillor's office. We have been reminded that making 311 your first call is the correct process. As always if your concern is not addressed through 311, call us!

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### **House of Lancaster Update**

22 Division have advised that they have resolution on both shootings. One arrest has been made and the other is being processed. Success and great work 22 Division! There have been no further instances for investigation at this time.

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## **Fairfield Park Update - New Winter Water Service**

Councillor Di Ciano supports a natural ice rink for Fairfield Park and has secured Section 37 funds for this project. Once the funds have been received we will advise. Only then can staff provide an estimated install date.

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## **Stonegate Community Meeting – New Date!**

The Councillor is having a baby! As a result we need to reschedule this meeting until the late summer. If you have any ward issues please email us so we may attend to them directly. We will confirm the date later this month. Note: The Guardian advised incorrect information with regard to this meeting, please confirm meeting details by visiting our website or calling our office.

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## **New City of Toronto Website for Real-Time Street Ploughing and Salting Updates**

The City of Toronto has created a webpage that enables residents to see the location of plows, sidewalk plows and salt trucks and when their street was serviced by the City's winter operations crews.

The new webpage uses a Global Positioning System (GPS) installed on plows and salt trucks to determine when a road was serviced by using a colour coded system. If a road was serviced within the last four hours, the road will be shown with a green line. If a road was serviced within the last four to 12 hours, the road will be shown with a blue line and if serviced between 12 to 24 hours, the road will be coloured red. The webpage is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/plowTO>.

At this time, information on exactly when plows or salt trucks will service specific streets is not available. Varying amounts of snow received during any snow episode and potential route changes make it difficult to predict exactly when vehicles will attend to certain roads.

Some winter operations equipment including bus stop plows, hand crews and supervisory and support vehicles is not displayed on the webpage.

You can follow the City's winter operations activities through Twitter @TO\_WinterOps.

More information about the City of Toronto's snow-clearing operations is available at <http://www.toronto.ca/transportation/>.

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## **New Online Water Use Tool**

Today, the City of Toronto launched **MyWaterToronto**, an online tool that allows customers to view their water use information anytime, anywhere, from their computer or mobile device. MyWaterToronto will provide better customer service by making it easier for customers to understand their water use, identify potential leaks, and consider ways to save water and money.

### **How the tool works**

To log-on, customers visit [www.toronto.ca/mywatertoronto](http://www.toronto.ca/mywatertoronto) and enter their utility account information. Customers can then view their total and average water use by day, week, month or year in an easy-to-read graph or chart format. The tool also provides the opportunity to add in additional details such as temperature and precipitation to help customers better understand why they may have used more or less water during a particular time period.

MyWaterToronto is also linked to the City's Utility Account Lookup, which is another online tool that customers can use to view their utility account information and details of their billings.

MyWaterToronto has been loaded with more than one billion water meter readings, which enables customers to view their water use data between January 1, 2015 and the second week of February 2016. Each day more data will be loaded so that eventually customers will be able to view their water use up to the day before they log-on.

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## **Forestry "Assessing Trees" Update**

The current standard utilized by the City of Toronto and the vast majority of the arboricultural industry is based upon visual inspection. Over the past while, new technology has been developed and introduced that allows for a higher level of assessment. For example **Tomography**, which refers to imaging by sections or sectioning, through the use of any kind of penetrating wave can be used to examine the interior of a trunk, helping to assess the tree's structural integrity.

Urban Forestry Tree Protection is currently conducting a review of our tree assessment methodology towards the goal of establishing a more predictable and reliable consistency across the City. As part of this review staff will be considering the use of and requirement for more comprehensive tree assessment under certain circumstances.

Please note that with regard to a private tree. If an application for removal is approved by Forestry Councillor Di Ciano is not advised. Only when an application is denied may it be placed on the agenda of Community Council.

Councillor Di Ciano has met with concerned residents and Forestry. Councillor Di Ciano supports facilitating Forestry to achieve a consistent assessment process for trees.

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### **Tree Protection Policy**

In December of 2015, Council voted and approved changes to the Tree Bylaw. The below are some of the key highlights of the approved amendments:

#### Enhanced Enforcement

- New wording to support collection of contravention inspection fees.
- Permits must be posted on the subject property in a location conspicuous from the street while work is taking place.
- Replacement trees that die or decline within 2 years of planting must be replaced. Replacement trees will be protected, in accordance with the by-law despite measuring less than 30 cm in diameter, if they have been planted as a condition of a permit.
- Article II was amended to provide specific authority to collect tree protection guarantee deposits when city-owned trees may be impacted by work in the road allowance.

#### Improved By-law Effectiveness

- Definitions for Boundary Tree, Neighbour Tree and Trunk have been added in Chapter 813, Article III and Chapter 658 (Ravine and Natural Feature Protection). A notification procedure when Boundary or Neighbour trees are involved has also been added.
- Applications will expire after 1 year.
- New permits conditions have been added.
- New delegated authorities allowing Urban Forestry to issue permits to facilitate "as of right" development or injure trees without requiring posting signage or consult with the local ward councillor. The delegated authority for injury applications will only apply when Urban Forestry has received a satisfactory protection plan and the tree is expected to survive the injury well. Urban Forestry will still promote maximum tree protection, retention and planting during review of "as of right" applications.

Councillor Di Ciano is also reviewing the feasibility of changing delegated authority regarding tree related issues to Community Council or a related Standing Committee rather than Council, to streamline the process. We will be sure to keep residents aware of any updates should Council approve such a change.

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### **Lush Cosmetics Meeting Summary**

Councillor Justin Di Ciano held a community meeting February 11th. City staff from MLS (Municipal Licensing & Standards) and Toronto Building were present. Also present was Mr. T. Main representing Lush Cosmetics.

The meeting was well attended and there was much debate. Concerns were heard and received. MLS advised that the manufacturing use (Lush) does not require a License. Building confirmed the zoning, employment Industrial.

The Councillor's office has been advised that Lush Cosmetics is in full conformity with all the city's bylaws & regulations as well as with The Ministry of The Environment.

Lush confirmed they will not be relocating.

Lush is in the initial stages of investigating options to better ameliorate any scents emanating from the facility. The production equipment is modern and some is as new as 2016.

Lush advised that they are willing to reconvene in the near future to update residents on their progress investigating new technology that would be considered by the company. Mr. Main could not commit to a specific time frame at this time but would advise Councillor Di Ciano of progress.

A recent complaint over loud music at 7:00 a.m. was investigated by the police. The police report they could not locate the source of this music. Lush confirmed that they did not have loud music playing and that since the initial complaints in the summer they have implemented restrictions so that this inappropriate behaviour is no longer an issue. Residents are encouraged to video (iPhone) record the noise/music which would be recorded and could then suffice as proof of this violation.

Councillor Di Ciano advised residents that any legal action would be a civil matter. To that end residents would need to fundraise to cover legal expenses.

Councillor Di Ciano suggested a Working Group be convened. Group members would include a representative from Lush, 2 residents, Councillor Di Ciano and members of City Staff to be determined. This may take 4-6 weeks to organise. **UPDATE:** The City Solicitor has advised that a Working Group would be inappropriate as there are no violations by Lush Cosmetics. Residents may of course organise their own Working Group. City staff also advised that any role Justin plays would be as a resident and not as the councillor on the working group.

Although reference was made to the Ward 6 issue with a Concrete business, it is important to note that in that specific case, the business has multiple Bylaw violations. To date there is no resolution in the Ward 6 case.

There was a request for a noise barrier/wall along the QEW. Senior Transportation staff advise this is not a project they would undertake.

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## **Islington Station – Cordova Parking Lot**

In early February, Councillor Di Ciano was informed via a media report that the Islington Subway Station Cordova commuter parking lot will be closed indefinitely by the end of February. The decision to close the parking lot was made in 2009, prior to Councillor Di Ciano's term. In 2009, the TTC began charging Metropass users \$3 to park at commuter parking lots, including those at Islington Station. In the ensuing months, demand for parking decreased as a result of the change in policy. Shortly after, the TTC determined that the Cordova and Main lot were being underutilized and Build Toronto requested that the lot be transferred to them for redevelopment opportunities.

In 2012, Build Toronto sold the Islington Cordova property to Tridel who plan on constructing a condominium tower. The agreement stipulated that the property could be used as a parking lot until Tridel was ready to construct. The Cordova parking lot has closed as of February 29, 2016. This is a loss of approximately 470 parking spaces. According to communications with Build Toronto, the Islington Main lot is also to be closed in 2019, which will create additional losses.

To mitigate the issue, Councillor Di Ciano has met with the Toronto Parking Authority and Build Toronto to determine locations for interim parking. With redevelopment of Kipling Station in the coming years, there may be opportunities to create new parking there. Further to this, the Councillor also moved a motion at the recent TTC Board meeting requesting that the TTC support a commuter parking lot strategy and work with Build Toronto and the Toronto Parking Authority on formulating a contingency plan to address the substantial decrease in parking on the western portion of line 2 – with a focus on Kipling and Islington Station. We look forward to hearing back from the TTC on their progress.

TTC has advised that commuters are to park in the remaining lots at Islington Station, or at Kipling Station. We understand that both commuter lots are quite full and we are working to find an interim solution for alternate parking nearby.

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## **Photo Radar – Discussions**

In a recent meeting Mayor Tory made a formal ask of Premier Wynne to amend provincial laws to allow photo radars in Toronto.

The Mayor's request follows the public safety concern that many residents, including those in Ward 5, are facing in their neighbourhoods. Photo radar's would allow more efficient deployment of police officers and would increase public safety, particularly in high traffic/high speed areas. Additional recommendations include targeting drivers making illegal left turns and speeding in school zones – a particular concern in many of our neighbourhoods - as well as changes to the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, allowing lower-paid civilian officers to issue tickets and direct traffic. Initial discussions with the Toronto Police Association indicate that the union is willing to look at potential benefits



of photo-radars. We will be sure to update residents via our E-newsletter once our office receives more information on this proposal.

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### **Parklawn Pool Open for the Summer!**

Enjoy!

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### **Brentwood Road North Traffic Calming**

Councillor Di Ciano's office has been advised that a petition is being circulated for speed humps (not bumps!) for Brentwood Road North. When we receive the petition we will, as per city policy, ask city staff to report back with a report to Community Council.

Updates will be provided in this E-Newsletter.

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### **Bill 52, Protection of Public Participation Act, 2015**

As a matter of interest for those that wish to research.

*Author(s): Lindsay Rauccio, Jack Coop, Jennifer Fairfax*

*Dec 10, 2014*

*Bill 52, the Protection of Public Participation Act, 2014 (the Bill), was re-introduced by Attorney General of Ontario Madeleine Meilleur on December 1, 2014. The Bill is a reincarnation of Bill 83, which was first introduced in 2013 and received its second reading in September of that year before dying on the order paper.*

*The Bill “seeks to balance the protection of public participation and freedom of expression and the protection of reputation and economic interests” and to discourage the use of Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPPs). SLAPPs, which are defined as lawsuits that are brought for the dominant purpose of silencing public opposition on an issue by strategically entangling the defendant in a web of expensive and time-consuming litigation, have been recognized as having the potential to stifle valid criticism and debate on issues of public interest.*

*The Bill represents the culmination of an Anti-SLAPP Advisory Panel (the Panel) that was struck to study the issue of SLAPPs in Ontario. In October 2010, the Panel reported its recommendations to the Ministry of the Attorney General.*

### **Protection of Public Participation Act Royal assent on November 3 2015**

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### **Road Resurfacing For Ramsbury Road in 2018**



<b>Project</b>	Local Road Resurfacing
<b>On Street</b>	RAMSBURY RD
<b>From Street</b>	58 m STANMILLS RD
<b>To Street</b>	NORDIN AVE
<b>Project Description</b>	Replacement of old asphalt surface with new asphalt surface, including repairs of any damaged sidewalks and curbs. Work may include the closure of individual lanes or the entire road.
<b>Planned Duration</b>	2018

Please note that there is no scheduled resurfacing for Stanmills Road in the 5 year plan at this time. The System shows Stanmills Road was last resurfaced Dec.31, 1996. The Pavement Quality Index was 6.9 in 2015.

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### **Sewer Work – Note!**

Councillor Justin Di Ciano's office received telephone calls complaining of "smells" during sewer work, please note as per every flyer sent out to property owners:

***Odour during Inspection:*** Please be aware that you may experience odours from flushing activities of the sewer on your street. These odours are of short duration in nature, and will diminish as the flushing is completed. If you smell odours during or after the work, open all windows (where possible) and please call the Field Ambassador or City of Toronto representative so they may assist you with the problem.

*The odours reaching your home may be the result of a dry or broken plumbing wastewater trap in the home. The purpose of the wastewater plumbing trap is to maintain a water barrier in the pipes to prevent all sewer odours from entering the home. In rarely used drains (such as floor drains), the water in the trap can evaporate over time resulting in no water barrier to prevent the odours from entering the home. A suggestion may be to pour water (about a gallon) down all floor drains or rarely used drains (sinks, tubs, showers etc) to ensure that a water barrier is maintained in the trap. If this does not work, then it is very likely that you have a trap that requires repair.*

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### **Traffic Requests Botfield/Bloor PXO and Meadowvale at Humbervale 4 Way Stop**

Transportation staff have completed their investigations of these two requests. In both instances Staff do not recommend the requested changes.

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### **Poll Results Ashbourne Drive**

The required 60% in favour of speed humps threshold was not met. Councillor Di Ciano has requested that staff provide a report on a reduced speed limit to 30km.

### **Charleston Road**

The required 60% in favour threshold was met. A report will come forward to Community Council.

### **Laurel Avenue**

The poll results did not meet the required threshold.

See all polling results here:

<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vnextoid=9510edb13331b410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>

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### **Glenellen East Traffic Calming Request**

Staff have completed their report for this request. The report, which is available upon request, recommended against speed humps. Councillor Di Ciano has requested this be included on the Community Council Agenda as he will be supporting traffic calming on Glenellen East.

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### **Lynn Grove Request for Updated Street Name Signage**

Residents had requested the new street name signage. Staff advise this is A. a 311 request (and cannot come from the Councillor's office) and B. that unless the present, older signs are in bad condition they would not qualify to be replaced.

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### **Dunshorne Development**

5415, 5421-5429, 5453, 5475, 5481, 5485 and 5487  
Dundas Street West and 15 and 25 Shorncliffe Road

This is an application that pre-dates Councillor Justin Di Ciano. The application is complete and all required public meetings took place prior to Councillor Di Ciano's term. No further meetings are warranted.

Final Staff Report:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2011/ey/bgrd/backgroundfile-41741.pdf>

To recap, the development is for six condominium apartment buildings containing 8 high-rise towers ranging in height from 20 to 30 storeys, a 0.4 hectare public park and a new publicly-accessible, private road network. The three buildings (with five towers) on the south portion of the sites would be residential only. The three buildings fronting on Dundas Street West would have an 8 storey base section, with commercial uses on the first floor facing Dundas Street West. The second and third floor of two of these

buildings would be used for office space. The remaining floors in these buildings would be residential.

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### **Stonegate Development Application**

The Final Staff Report was passed unanimously by Community Council February 23, 2016. With much praise from fellow Councillors who have been trying for years to implement Woonerf Streets and/or a "not for profit" Food Co-Op in their wards. A big thank you to staff who worked tirelessly to bring Councillor Justin Di Ciano's vision of a new and vibrant community hub for Stonegate forward.

Stay tuned over the summer for exciting details on the splash pad!

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### **Brentwood Library Update – Teenagers**

"Situation still under control."

*Per Library Staff: A few teens have recently begun to act out again; we have excluded two for 8 weeks, and have issued several one-day exclusions. However the sustained and intense misbehaviour involving large numbers of teens has not returned.*

*As in the past, there are two separate groups; older teens in high school (the 8 week exclusions) and younger ones from Islington JMS/ECI Gr. 9.*

*Turning the Teen Space into a quiet study room from 4-8 each weeknight has helped. Most teens seem to respect the new rules; teens who want to study now make better use of the room; and eliminating adults from that room during peak student use has helped enormously.*

*The presence of a security guard has been most helpful. We have him until the end of April and hope this can be extended. We were without a guard for a short period in the late fall. During this time incidents once again began to escalate, as staff are unable to provide the constant monitoring that these customers require. With the arrival of our new guard in December, the situation once again improved. "*

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### **Community Centres**

Councillor Di Ciano's office has received enquiries in regard to community centres, specifically new ones planned for Ward 5. A new community centre costs in the range of \$20-30 million dollars. The last report was prepared in 2004, if you wish a copy of this report please email us. A revised report will be available later in 2016. When it is available we will provide the link so you may review the details. Community Centres are not usually funded through Section 37 funding.

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## **New Development Application – 2 Gibbs Road**

Edilcan Development has submitted an application for mixed use with 1500 residential units. The proposal consists of 2 ten storey mid-rise buildings with residential rental units and retail and three residential condominium towers, 46, 37 and 31 storeys respectively above a 5 storey podium with retail, office and 14 town house units.

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## **Traffic Study – Report for The Queensway and Parklawn**

Councillor Justin Di Ciano has asked staff to review and report back on any improvements that may be feasible to improve traffic flow.

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## **New Application 4125/4133 Dundas Street West at Kingsway Crescent**

City Planning have received a new application (rezoning) for 4125 Dundas Street West, 4127 - 4129 Dundas Street West and 4133 Dundas Street West.



