

Our Neighbourhood News

Grandview Area Residents Association – Annual General Meeting

YAWN! Why bother going? Who needs another meeting?

Well, this one might be worth attending.

Do you care about even bigger homes going up next door or down the street?

That’s a strong possibility. Come and find out why.

Staff from the City of Markham will present and ask for your opinion. There are plans to consolidate in-fill housing by-laws across Markham and while our neighbourhood currently enjoys rules that permit only relatively smaller and less tall homes than in other parts of the City, this would change if we lose our current by-law.

Surely, it is important to learn more and ensure our community’s views are taken into account.

Please join us...

November 14th, 7:30pm, Henderson Avenue School

www.thornhillgara.com



We’re Looking for Local Heroes



Each year about one-half of Canadians over 15 years old contribute their time, energy and skills to all kinds of groups and organizations. They shape our communities and enable non-profit organizations to deliver grants and services to millions of Canadians.

Our community would be sorely diminished if our residents did not volunteer for causes they are passionate about. We consider volunteers to be heroes in our community and we want to begin recognizing them.

Continued on Page 3....

Grandview Park—What’s Happening?

For many years, our community have been working with City staff and former Councillor, Valerie Burke, to add new activities to our local park. The residents chose the attractions. They included a durable surface for the ice skating rink, splash pad, skateboard area and a community stage for plays, concerts and other events.

In 2017, the durable surface for the skating rink was eliminated . The City felt that it would be too much hard surface in a relatively small green space. As of 2018, three amenities remained; the splash pad, the skateboard spot and the community stage. We have been waiting for construction to begin on these three new park features.



This September, our present Ward Councillor, Keith Irish informed us that the project was \$332,000 over budget and that the community stage was being eliminated. This decision was made by Council on the recommendation of Mr. Irish and parks staff. No notice was given to the community, there was no consultation, and there was no opportunity to present our views before Council.

Community members who worked on the project for the last 8 years, both from GARA and Ward One South Residents Association, were not pleased that there was no consulta-

tion. We have been attempting to obtain more information on the budget and other details of the decision making process.

In any case, as far as we know, at least a splash pad and skateboard spot will be built in the park next summer.

Looking for Hosers!

Hooray! We have been told that despite construction our ice rink can still go ahead this winter. Please contact Brian Forrester at bkforrester@sympatico.ca if you can join his merry crew of volunteers.




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Message from Our Councillor

Renaming a Section of Meadowview Avenue

At my request Markham Council recently agreed to rename the section of Meadowview Avenue between Yonge Street and Doncaster Avenue to Doncaster Avenue.



Meadowview Avenue originally ran continuously as one street from Yonge Street to a point just east of Jewel Street. When Doncaster was constructed this section of Meadowview was separated from the remainder to the east and not renamed.

Clearing up this confusion by naming the entire length as Doncaster Avenue resolves an issue for Markham Fire. Until now they were forced to send two fire trucks, one to the eastern section and one to the western section, for instances where calls are dropped and it is not known where along Meadowview the emergency response is required.

Grandview Park

I am pleased to announce that construction at Grandview Park to build a number of new amenities including a skateboard zone, splash pad, a new playground with improved accessibility features, a pavilion building with washrooms, and other related landscape improvements has begun. All construction, valued at \$1.8M, is expected to be complete by Fall 2020.

Unsafe Driving Behaviour

I have been working with residents to address some of the more problematic areas in the neighbourhood, including Grandview east of Henderson, for aggressive and unlawful driving. To that end, the road in front of Henderson Avenue Public School will have a speed board in place for three months beginning January 2020 while the 40 km flex-posts are removed for winter.

Keith Irish
Councillor, Ward 1 Thornhill
905-948-5101 kirish@markham.ca

Local Heroes ... continued from Page 1

Do you or a family member or neighbour volunteer time for some organization or cause you care about? GARA wants to hear about it. What is the organization? How many hours do you or someone else donate? What are the volunteer tasks? How long have you been doing this work? Why do you care about this volunteer effort in particular?

Each edition of our newsletter will have a column devoted to our local volunteer heroes.

Drop us a note at garamail@yahoo.ca, or at 12 Almond Ave., Thornhill.. **Don't be shy... let us hear from you about your own volunteer work or someone you know.**

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Grandview Area Residents Association (GARA)

Join GARA or renew your membership and be a part of the important work it does.

Click the [Join Us](#) link at www.thornhillgara.com

If you prefer please use this form

YES! I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT MY NEIGHBOURHOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION SO THAT IT CAN CONTINUE TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE EXPERIENCE OF RESIDENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY..

Please check off the applicable box: NEW MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____ (Our best method of reaching you and keeping you up-to-date with local issues and events. E-mail addresses will not be used for any other purposes or shared outside of GARA)

Please share your issues and views on how we can best pursue our mission while fulfilling our roles and responsibilities in the space below:

GARA always needs your help in our community. Please indicate where you can contribute:

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Delivering Newsletters | <input type="checkbox"/> Organizing Social Events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lobbying Markham Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Park and Woods Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Various Committee Work (Traffic, Flood, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Rink <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance |

Membership is \$10.00 per household per year. Payment by cash, cheque or on-line is welcome. Please make cheques payable to **Grandview Area Residents Association** and deliver or mail this application, along with your payment, to: **Majda Ambrozic 12 Almond Avenue Thornhill, Ontario L3T 1L1**

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