



E-newsletter 13 October 2020

www.LPRO.wordpress.com

The Lytton Park Residents' Organization (LPRO) is a group of volunteers that works together to make our community stronger. We share information about our community, inform members of issues and highlight events. We continue to meet during these "interesting" COVID 19 times, to better serve the Lytton Park community. Our usual summer hiatus did not occur due to the many initiatives that the LPRO has taken on. **"Together we do make a difference!"**
Stay safe.

LPRO's E-Newsletter – Sign Up!

If you don't already receive the LPRO Newsletter and would like to receive it directly, please register your email address at www.LPRO.wordpress.com/subscribe-to-newsletters or send us an email to LyttonParkResidentsOrg@gmail.com.

Avenue Road and Lawrence Ave W (NE Corner) Development Update (Virtual) Meeting Date October 22nd 6:30-8:30 p.m.

City-led Community Consultation virtual meeting **October 22nd at 6:30 pm** (all welcome).

[Click here for the meeting Notice.](#)

Mark your calendar and "attend" and learn more.

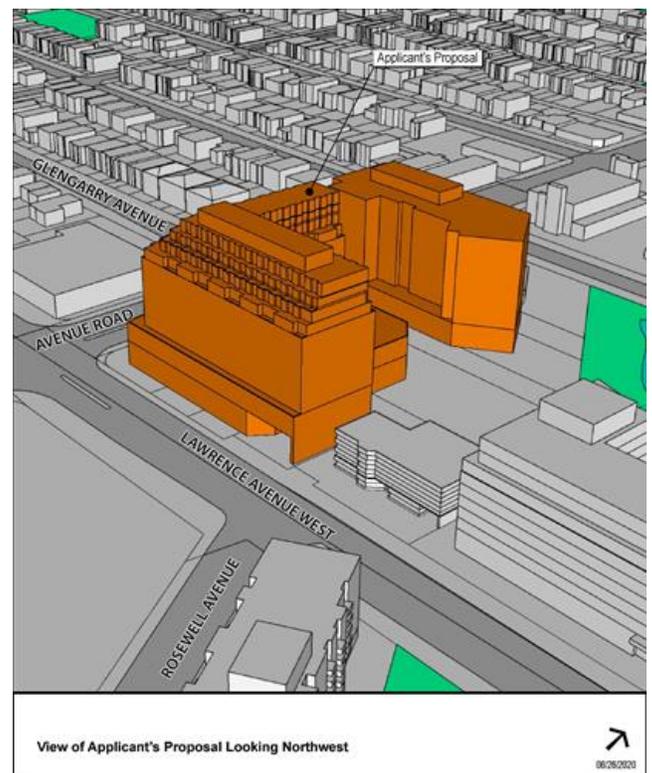
The site address is 284-290 Lawrence Avenue West and 1507-1545 Avenue Road.

Excerpts from the City's Meeting Notice flyer:

For further information on the application, please refer to the contact information on the Notice or visit <https://aic.to/284LawrenceAveW>. Materials, including drawings and consultant studies, are located there under "supporting documentation".

How to participate:

Visit the Application Information Centre (<https://aic.to/284LawrenceAveW>) to review the material before the meeting. If you are unable to access the materials online, please contact City Planning Staff. You can call or email them using the contact information provided.



Public consultation on development proposal for 284-290 Lawrence Avenue West / 1507-1545 Avenue Road
Meeting date and time: October 22, 2020 between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Join Online:

A link will be provided on at <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations> before the session to be used for joining the meeting Online.

For more information about how to join the meeting, how to participate and the code of conduct visit <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations>.

Join by Phone:

Callers will be able to listen but will not be able to ask live questions during the meeting. Submit your comments in advance by contacting City Planning Staff or the Councillor's Office.

Call-in Details: The call-in number and meeting number will be provided at <http://www.toronto.ca/cpconsultations>.

Background:

Throughout the process LPRO has been working with three neighbouring residents' associations affected by the proposal. The four groups sent a [joint letter](#) to North York Community Council which identified preliminary concerns.

Given the size of the site, the City is exercising its ability to require a public park on the property. The proposed development does not include a park and therefore changes to the proposal are necessary and expected. The new park is needed to accommodate the population growth that will result from the proposal as well as to address an existing need for increased parkland in the wider community. The proposal currently includes a privately-owned, landscaped open space. The City has confirmed this does not meet the criteria of a public park for several reasons.

Resident groups are also concerned that two tall buildings are proposed in a mid-rise policy area. The City is assessing this issue. In addition to the height, the upper levels do not include adequate terracing back from the street as required by City policies.

Finally, we are concerned about the pedestrian safety and traffic impacts of a 600-car garage and 5 truck-loading spaces exiting directly onto both Avenue Road and Lawrence Avenue West, mid-block and without traffic signals.

Representatives from the LPRO Board of Directors, as well as the three neighbouring local residents' associations will be meeting with the Developer to discuss our concerns. LPRO will continue to advocate for changes to the proposal to arrive at the best possible outcome for the community.



Lytton Park Community Spirit Awards Nominations Requested

The community spirit awards are presented each year to people who make a special contribution to the life of our neighbourhood. If you would like to recommend someone - a neighbour, yourself - for an award, please email lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com. We would love to receive a couple of photos accompanying your nomination if possible.

- Best Garden Award
- Encouraging Signs in the 'Hood'
- Best Street Party - Please let us know if your street is planning to hold or has held a socially-distanced street party – date and contact person(s)
- Great Halloween Decorating
- Wonderful Winter Lighting

We welcome suggestions for other Community Spirit Awards! Please send them to lyttonparkresidentsorg@gmail.com with *Community Spirit Awards* in the subject line.

Roehampton Shelter Update

As outlined in previous Shelter Updates, the City has formed a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) for the Roehampton Shelter to improve communication and support a smooth integration of the shelter into the community. LPRO is a member of the CLC. [The Committee had its first meeting in September](#). The Terms of Reference, meeting summaries, and Community Bulletins (including the latest bulletin, dated September 28, 2020) can be found here: [Community Engagement for Roehampton Residence – City of Toronto](#)

According to the Uptown Yonge Business Improvement Area, retailers and other businesses in the vicinity have noticed a drop in crime and vagrancy over the past few weeks. This is undoubtedly thanks to a number of measures put in place over the past month: the addition of private security, an increased police presence in the area, more security at the shelter, patrols around the local schools and surrounding streets, and improvements in staffing and support services at the shelter.

Through its participation on the CLC, LPRO will continue to monitor developments and report to the community.

So, you think you can Bike? – Take the Quiz!

The Toronto Star ran a quiz a few years ago to see how your knowledge of rules of the road for cyclists measures up. You can instantly see your score results and compare it with family and friends while maybe even learning a few things too!

[Take the Quiz- click here!](#)

Bike Related Articles:

From the Toronto Star:

[Yonge St. bike lane would prove hugely popular](#)

From Bloomberg:

[How the '15-Minute City' Could Help Post-Pandemic Recovery](#)



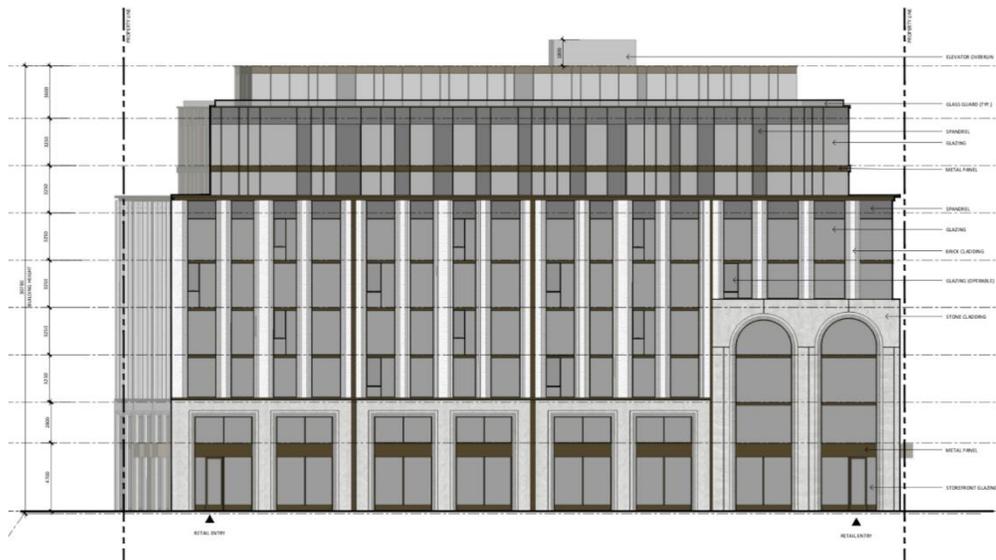
Alexandra & Yonge Proposed Development 2676- 2704 Yonge Street (former Trull Funeral Home)

On September 16, a rezoning application was submitted by Triage Developments for the properties at 2676-2704 Yonge Street at the southwest corner of Alexandra Blvd. The Developer will be using the address "1 Alexandra." This includes the former Trull Funeral Home site as well as a low-rise apartment building to the south.

Alexandra Gates: LPRO had previously initiated an effort to restore the Alexandra Gates, which were in poor condition and deteriorating. The Gates historically served as a gateway to the community. The Developer has dismantled the Gates and has committed to restoring them to their original appearance.

The proposal consists of a 9-storey, 30.8m-tall building. The proposed building would contain 127 units, including rental replacement units for the existing apartment building and new condo units. The Development would have 82 underground parking spaces with a driveway exiting onto Alexandra Blvd. The proposal includes a parkland dedication to expand Snider Parkette, but it is smaller than required. LPRO is reviewing the proposal and has several initial concerns relating to the parkland dedication, transportation, the building's setbacks and height. We will be in touch with both City Planning and the Developer and continue to update the community as the application progresses.

View from Yonge Street



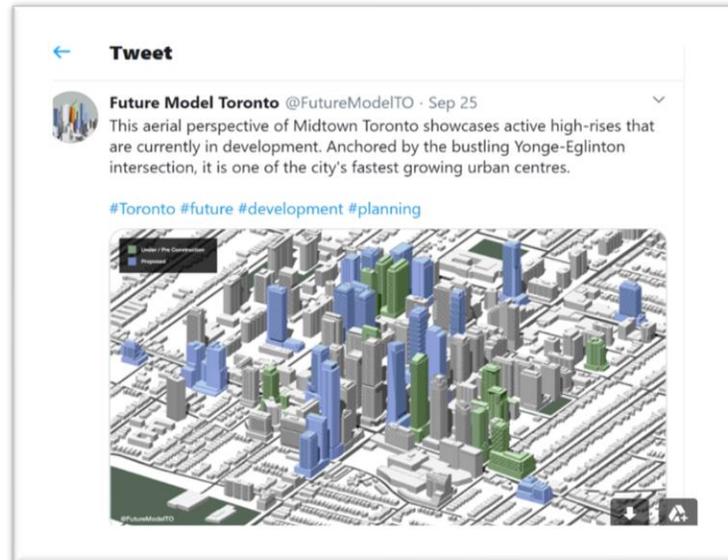
Uptown Yonge BIA Holiday 25% Bonus E-Gift Card

- A great opportunity to get some free money for LPRO residents while supporting local shops and services
- The card goes on sale Friday, October 16th
- Limit is 2 x \$500.00 per customer
- Link to their website: <http://www.uptownyonge.com> which will have the participating stores listed



Midtown Development – Yonge & Eglinton

Green - under/pre-construction
Blue - Proposed



City to Review Health & Environmental Impacts of Two-Stroke Engine Garden Equipment

Benefits of banning or seasonally-limiting gas-powered equipment:

- A battery-operated mower's annual energy cost is 1/3 lower than for a gas one
- A battery-operated leaf blower's annual energy cost is 1/3 lower than for a gas one
- Significant health benefits of electric equipment over gas
- Battery operated has lower operational cost than gas equipment

Worst Impacts of Gas Equipment: emissions, health risks, noise, vibration, gas & oil, toxic waste, solid waste, inefficiencies, maintenance, and expense.



On October 2, Toronto City Council passed Shelly Carroll's motion and Josh Matlow's amendment on gas-powered lawn and garden equipment. It requested that:

The City Manager, in consultation with Dr. Eileen de Villa, report in the first quarter of 2021 on environmental and associated health impacts of gasoline-powered two-stroke engine leaf blowers and similar garden equipment, including the feasibility of a year-round ban or a ban from May to September.

And that:

The City Manager, consulting with the Medical Officer of Health and the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing Standards, report in the first quarter of 2021 on the impact of noise generated from gas-powered and electric leaf blowers and other similar garden equipment, including the feasibility of a year-round ban or a ban from May to September.

You are encouraged to write to Mayor John Tory, Medical Officer of Health Dr. Eileen de Villa, and Board of Health Chair Joe Cressy, if you support banning gas lawn-care equipment.

Sidewalk Snow Clearing – Not Equitable Across the City

From Councillor Josh Matlow's October 6th Community Update:

"Last winter, City Council called for improved standards for sidewalk snow maintenance due to valid concerns raised by residents that Toronto's current standards are completely insufficient in the downtown and centre of the City.

"It is inequitable that residents in the former cities of North York, Scarborough, Etobicoke, and York receive sidewalk snow clearing while the majority of neighbourhoods in Old Toronto and East York do not."

"With the COVID-19 pandemic, walking will be more important than ever to our physical and mental health, especially for seniors and people living with mobility challenges.

"That is why I moved a [motion](#), seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, at this week's Council meeting to address this issue. While my motion was supported by a few of my colleagues, including the Mayor, it unfortunately did not receive a two-thirds vote for it to pass. It was however referred to an upcoming Infrastructure and Environment Committee.

["Please click here to learn more about my motion and about what you can do to help move this forward."](#)



Future of Toronto's Golf Course Parklands

[From Toronto Environmental Alliance, October 7, 2020:](#)

"On Friday, City Council voted on extending the operating contracts on five City-owned golf courses. While Council voted to extend the contracts with golf course operators by two years, after public pressure from organizations and individual residents, several motions led to wins including a commitment to hold a public consultation in 2021, and to explore opening these lands for free, year-round use."

"This debate wasn't just about golf courses - it was about how public space in our city is used, who has a say in what it is used for, and ensuring public land serves the greatest public good. It's time for Toronto to reimagine public spaces to better serve community needs and build a more healthy, resilient, and sustainable city."

"Here is what we won:

- *Council directed City Staff to report back to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee (IEC) meeting in Spring 2021 with recommendations on alternative recreational and community use options for golf courses. When this report comes back to the IEC Committee, it will be an opportunity for the public to comment and speak up on what they'd like to see considered.*
- *Council voted to hold a public consultation on the future uses of golf course parklands that engages all stakeholders, including people living near golf courses.*
- *Council voted to direct Staff to consult with Indigenous Affairs Office and Aboriginal Affairs Committee on the future of public golf course lands.*
- *Council directed the Department of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to explore and pursue options to open up golf courses for year-round public outdoor recreational uses to encourage more opportunities for physical distancing in greenspaces. The department will begin this immediately with a focus on increasing access to these parklands during the winter months by addressing barriers to use."*

You Can Help – Make a Difference!

Women's Cycling Network Need Ready-to-Ride Bikes

The Women's Cycling Network, an inclusive group of now nearly 100 women from the Thorncliffe Park and Flemingdon Park communities as well as neighbourhoods close by, find freedom, empowerment and health benefits by riding a bike. Because of many generous donors, 70 women have bikes and have learned to ride.

What is needed are READY-TO-RIDE BIKES, particularly: HYBRIDS & CITY BIKES to fit those 5' 3" OR UNDER. If you have a bike to give, read about [the Women's Cycling Network #BikeMatch program and complete the form](#). Your bike will be matched with a woman from our waiting list and a contact-free donation arranged.

Friendly Neighbour Hotline - Volunteers Wanted

University Health Network's OpenLab is helping vulnerable seniors—the group most at risk during the COVID-19 pandemic—by mobilizing volunteers to deliver groceries and other household essentials. The service gives priority to seniors living in low-income housing.

Due to the need for physical distancing, many seniors face challenges with picking up essentials like groceries. These challenges are made worse by the new reality of having to wait in long lines at some

stores, which may not be possible for frail seniors, and which brings a higher risk of contracting COVID-19.

<http://uhnopenlab.ca/project/hotline/>

Report Graffiti



From the City website:

Graffiti vandalism creates a nuisance that can adversely affect property values, business opportunities and poses a risk to the health, safety and welfare of a community.

- If you are witnessing graffiti vandalism in progress, please call 911
- If you see Graffiti on City or private property, please report it. Call 311, Email 311@toronto.ca or [report it online](#)
- To report hate or gang-related graffiti, call Toronto Police Services at 416-808-2222

Download the COVID Alert App

From the [Federal web site](#):

“Together, let's limit the spread of COVID-19 and prevent future outbreaks.

COVID Alert helps us break the cycle of infection. The app can let people know of possible exposures before any symptoms appear.”



Great Canadian Hike – Sign Up & #Share

[Great Canadian Hike website:](#)

The Great Canadian Hike will be the longest coordinated, collective hike in Canadian history on The Great Trail of Canada, which spans 13 provinces and territories. We are challenging Canadians to get outside and hike (walk, jog, cycle or paddle) a portion of The Great Trail of Canada during the month of October 2020.

[FIND YOUR HIKE](#)

Search for one of our Signature Hikes, or a Trail near you. Then select a date, start time approximate distance and the number of people in your group; it's that easy to be part of Canada's largest coordinated hike - and its FREE! Share photos or videos of your hike with the hashtag #GreatCanadianHike for a chance to win!

The Great Trail of Canada - Stretching for more than 27,000 kilometres and profiling Canada's diverse landscapes and cultures, The Great Trail – created by Trans Canada Trail – is the world's longest network of recreational multi-use trails. With the valued support of partners, donors, volunteers and all levels of government, The Great Trail links over 15,000 communities from coast to coast to coast.

Toronto – Tree City of the World!

Quote by Mayor John Tory:

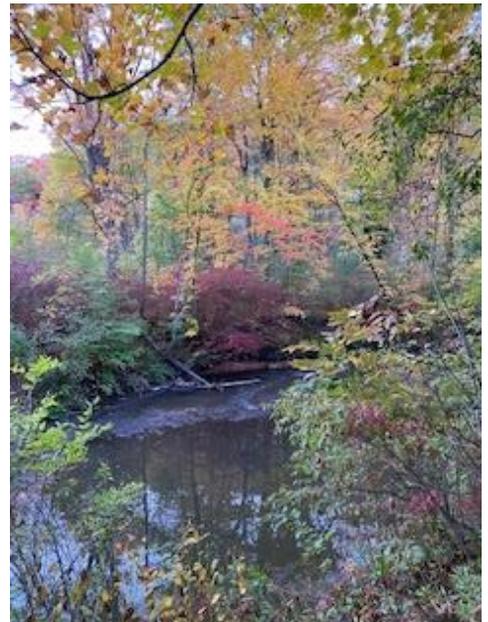
"A healthy tree canopy is a cornerstone of Toronto's environmental sustainability. While climate change is a global phenomenon, we can do our part on a local level by prioritizing changes that will help address the impacts of climate change. I am glad to see that the City is being recognized for its hard work and efforts towards protecting our tree canopy and I'm pleased to accept the Champion of Trees Award on behalf of the City."

From Toronto Live Green:

"Toronto recognized as 'Tree City of the World' and 'Champion of Trees'

Mayor John Tory proclaimed September 21, 2020 as 'Tree City of the World Day' in celebration of the City of Toronto's recognition as a Tree City of the World by the [Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations](#) and the Arbor Day Foundation. The designation recognizes cities committed to ensuring their urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed, and celebrated. Toronto was also recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation with the [Champion of Trees Award](#) for exemplary leadership in developing and implementing policies and practices for tree planting and care and natural area stewardship."

"Help grow the urban forest... right from your backyard. Fall is a great time to plant! As temperatures cool and the days grow shorter, trees send resources to their roots, helping newly planted trees establish in their new environment. Contact [LEAF](#) to plant native trees and shrubs at a subsidized cost. The **LEAF Backyard Tree Planting Program** is delivered in partnership with the City of Toronto. [Learn more about planting in the fall.](#)"



Don River - Oct. 2020

Reducing the Use of Road Salt

From the City of Toronto:

"It's white. It's everywhere. It can accumulate on Toronto sidewalks in the winter.

It's road salt, and it can be toxic to wildlife.

Salt is damaging to shoes, infrastructure, and the paws of our pets. Salt doesn't disappear with the snow; it washes into Ontario's creeks, lakes and rivers and stays there. This is bad for the environment and can harm wildlife, or even contaminate drinking water.

With these issues in mind, the City created a [Salt Management Plan](#) to balance the need to keep roads and sidewalks safe for users at a reasonable cost with the environmental impacts. Live Green Toronto wants to raise awareness about excessive salt use on private property — which can be the cause of 50 per cent or more of the road salt contamination in the Great Lakes watershed."

Salt Usage Facts:

- *The City has 200 salt trucks and typically uses 130,000 – 150,000 tonnes of salt annually.*
- *City budgets for 14,000 tonnes of sand annually.*
- *City receives approximately 130 cm of snow annually.*
- *Employees involved in snow clearing and removal operations (1,000 City staff, 600 contractors)."*

Mount Pleasant Cemetery: Update



Friends of Mount Pleasant Cemetery:

The Friends of Mount Pleasant Cemetery are petitioning the Provincial Government to update legislation to protect the cemetery as a public trust: www.friendstpc.org/petition.html.

from their website:

"Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries (MPGC) was established as a public trust by the Ontario Legislature in the 1800s and operated with public participation for over 150 years until the 1980s. The trust was funded 100% by the Ontario public, who continue to subsidize it through the forgiveness of all taxation.

"In the mid-2000s, the MPGC board began without reason to claim that it was their "commercial, privately owned cemetery" and that there was no public trust. The board declared it was accountable to no one, despite the public's investment that had grown to an approximately \$3 billion dollar asset encompassing 1,222 acres in the Greater Toronto Area and enjoying ongoing public subsidy.

"In order to protect the Trust, and due to a vacuum in Provincial leadership and oversight, the Friends of Toronto Public Cemeteries applied to the Courts to interpret and enforce the Province's own legislation. Although 'Friends' won the case in Superior Court, the Court of Appeal reversed the judge's decision and... delivered the cemetery assets in private hands.

"Mount Pleasant can now lock the gates and restrict access to the cemetery, as we've seen recently, or do something worse - such as sell cemetery land to a foreign-owned multinational cemetery corporation.

"The Court of Appeal, however, confirmed that the Trust was created by the provincial Legislature which can re-legislate as it sees fit.

"The Government of Ontario must act to update the legislation to protect our Public Trust, or we will lose it

As Seen on our “Quiet Street” [Duplex]

The City notes: “Quiet Streets signs and barricades will be removed throughout October, on a rolling basis beginning around Thanksgiving.”



Lytton Park Residents' Organization
Annual Membership \$30.00 per household
Join or Renew For 2020!

We encourage you to become a member or to renew your membership with Lytton Park Residents' Organization, especially if you care about protecting and advancing the community's interests and fostering a sense of neighbourhood in our area.

LPRO's membership year extends from January to December, so it is time to renew your membership for 2020. Your support helps us vigorously represent our shared neighbourhood interests. Our collective voice has an impressive impact and effectiveness in matters affecting our community. Thank you for your continued membership support. It is pivotal for our representative credibility and funding needs. There are approximately 3,000 households in the Lytton Park area. Thank you in advance for supporting your community.

Ways to Join or Renew: 1) MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc. and mail it with the completed form below to "Lytton Park Residents' Organization Inc., **NEW MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 1348, 2708 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3J4"; 2) or even easier - donate via **Credit Card/PayPal**: visit www.LPRO.wordpress.com & select "MEMBERSHIP"; or 3) Cheques with this form can also be dropped off at 235 Glenview Avenue.**

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2020 Membership Form - Membership Type: New / Renewal

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address 1: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email Address 2: _____

I would like more information about the LPRO: Yes/No

I am available as a community volunteer: Yes/No

I would like to help in the following areas: _____

Comments: _____

Questions? Email us at LyttonParkResidentsOrg@gmail.com
Together, we **DO** make a difference!