



E-Newsletter 10 January 2021

<http://www.lyttonparkro.ca/>

*A Happy, Healthy
New Year to All!
Good-bye 2020!*



The Lytton Park Residents' Organization (LPRO) is an incorporated non-profit association, representing member households from Lawrence Avenue West to Roselawn and Briar Hill Avenues, Yonge Street to Saguenay and Proudfoot Avenue. We care about protecting and advancing the community's interests and fostering a sense of neighbourhood in our area. We work together to make our community stronger, sharing information about our community issues and events. **"Together we do make a difference!"**

LPRO's E-Newsletter - Sign Up Today - It's FREE!

If you don't already receive the LPRO's E-Newsletter and would like to receive it directly, please register your email address at www.lyttonparkro.ca/newsletter-sign-up or send us an email to LyttonParkResidentsOrq@gmail.com. Please share this newsletter with neighbours!

Support YOUR Community Residents' Association - Renew or Join for 2021

As a non-profit organization run by community volunteers, we rely on your membership to cover our costs to advocate for the community, provide newsletters, lead an annual community yard sale and a ravine clean-up, organize speaker events and host election candidate debates. Please join or renew your membership. The membership form and details on how to pay the \$30 annual fee are on the last page of this newsletter or on our web site at <http://www.lyttonparkro.ca/>. Thankyou for your support!

Check out LPRO's New Website! Click [HERE](#)

2674 Yonge (at Alexandra) Development Community Meeting - January 25th

A virtual community meeting will be held for the development application at **2674 - 2704 Yonge Street** (at Alexandra and Yonge) which will take place at **7pm on January 25th**. To join the meeting [please click this link](#) shortly before 7pm on January 25th. Type “**2674 Yonge**” into the search bar and click on “register.” Meeting notices will be mailed to those living nearby the site.



Background

The development site is located on the southwest corner of Yonge and Alexandra and includes the former Trull Funeral Home site and the adjacent low-rise apartment building to the south. The development application proposes a 9-storey building, 31m in height, containing 127 units and 82 underground parking spaces accessed from Alexandra Blvd.

The application was submitted on September 16, 2020. City Planning prepared a Preliminary Report outlining the proposal, applicable policies and issues to be addressed. This report was adopted by North York Community Council on November 4. The next step is a meeting at which the City and Developer will present the proposal to members of the community who will be able to ask questions and comment on the proposal.

[LPRO sent a letter](#) to North York Community Council with an overview of our concerns. The Development as currently proposed does not meet the City’s parkland dedication requirement. LPRO supports the requirement to convey 10% of the property as parkland as this would allow for an expansion of the adjacent Snider Parkette. LPRO has concerns about future vehicular pick-up/drop-off activity taking place on Alexandra Blvd as well as the setbacks, step-backs and height of the building. More information can be found on LPRO’s [website](#).

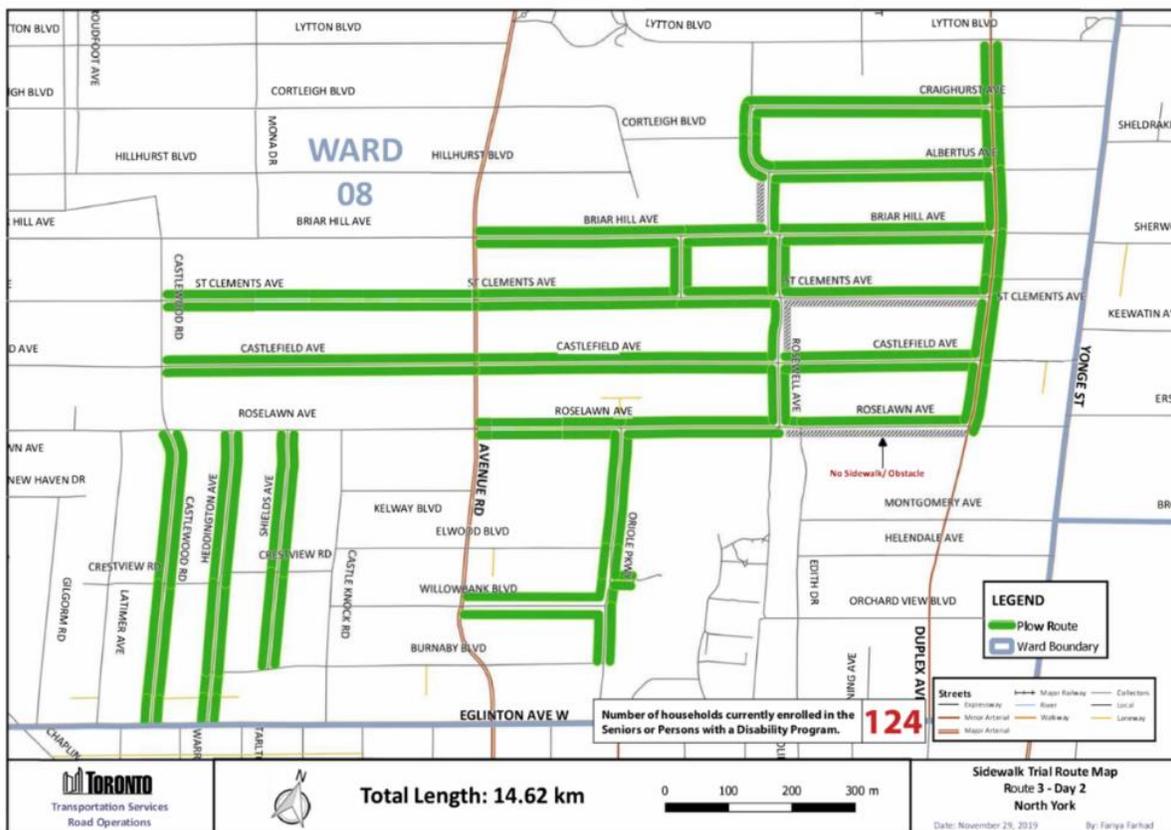


City Sidewalk Plowing Pilot in Lytton Park Area

Historically, the City of Toronto has not plowed sidewalks in the central City as they are too narrow for the City's sidewalk snowplows. Residents who live on side streets in the central City have been required to clear their own sidewalks. In Scarborough, North York and Etobicoke, the City plows nearly all sidewalks on local roads, at no cost to residents. In November, LPRO sent a letter to City Council in support of increasing the number of sidewalks that are cleared of snow by the City.

In December, a report was released with an update on the City's pilot program to plow narrower residential sidewalks in the central City. Last year a pilot program included 8 smaller sidewalk plows. The City has acquired one more of the smaller plows and as a result will add several streets north of Eglinton to the pilot program including part of the LPRO area. Sidewalks on Craighurst, Albertus, Briar Hill, St. Clements, Castlefield, Roselawn, Roswell (Craighurst to Roselawn) and Duplex (Lytton to Roselawn) will be cleared by City plows this Winter! See the map below.

Transportation Services will review the success of the pilot program in the Spring and report on the costs and feasibility of expanding the program to additional streets and making it permanent.



For an enlarged [map CLICK](#).

Your Snow Clearing Responsibility

If your street is not included in the Sidewalk Snow Clearing Pilot area you are still required to clear the sidewalk in front of your home **within 12 hours** of a snowfall.

Important Note! City Bylaw Section 719-2.B states: After the removal of snow and ice, if any portion of the sidewalk becomes slippery from any cause, the owner or occupant must immediately and as often as necessary apply to the sidewalk ashes, sand, salt or some other suitable material so as to completely cover the slippery surface.

The City offers programs to clear sidewalks for seniors and those with disabilities.

If a property owner does not clear their sidewalk, it can be reported to 311 by phone, email (311@toronto.ca), or on the City's website.



Winter Mask Challenges

CBC News December 4, 2020 Article - [It's winter. It's cold. How do I deal with a mask that freezes?](#)

"Will my mask work if it gets wet and/or freezes? The short answer is probably not."

REMINDER

Speed Cameras are now on Avenue Rd by Allenby Junior Public School.

In total 50 cameras were installed city-wide on local, collector and arterial roads in Community Safety Zones near schools.



Protecting Ontario's Environmental Future - Jan. 12th Webinar

[From the Environmental Defence Canada:](#)

What's next after the gutting of Conservation Authorities?

On December 8th, the Ontario government passed a new law which seriously weakened Conservation Authorities, allowing the province to turn its back on science-based planning. This means that new developments that could cause floods or landslides and destroy protected and ecologically sensitive lands can be ordered to go ahead. At the same time, the government has been making unprecedented use of Minister's Zoning Orders to force through planning decisions without debate or input from municipalities or the public. For example, allowing a developer to pave over half of the Lower Duffins Creek provincially significant wetland complex in Pickering just to build some warehouses.

These attacks join the government's push to build a new 400 series highway in the Greenbelt near Kleinburg, attacks on endangered species and their habitats as well as on climate action.

The people of Ontario have voiced their anger over these changes loud and clear. Tens of thousands of people phoned and wrote to their MPPs, and eight members of the Greenbelt council resigned in protest concerning the recent attacks on Conservation Authorities - including the chair, David Crombie. We have not yet stopped the damaging attacks, but together we have begun to make sure their consequences are well known and that communities are prepared to stand up for their futures. The movement to protect Ontario's forests, wetlands and future is far from over.

So what next for Ontario's environment? Join Environmental Defence, former Greenbelt Council chair David Crombie, Canadian Environmental Law Association and Ontario Nature on January 12 at 7pm for a live conversation about protecting our future. We'll dive into what the attacks on environmental rules mean for our province, what we can expect next for our communities, and what you can do to stand up for the water, farmland and natural places we all rely on for our future.

[Register](#) today to tune in for this live discussion!

Webinar Details

Topic: Conservation Authorities, Ministers Zoning Orders and protecting Ontario's ecosystems

Date: Tuesday, January 12th, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (EDT)

Register to Attend the Webinar - CLICK

Speakers:

Tim Gray (Host) - Executive Director, Environmental Defence

David Crombie - Former Chair of the Greenbelt Council

Anastasia Lintner - Special Projects Council, Canadian Environmental Law Association

Anne Bell - Director of Conservation and Education, Ontario Nature

2908 Yonge Development (at Chatsworth) - Hearing Dates Feb 16-26 and Community (Virtual) Participation

The developer has appealed to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT), and a hearing is scheduled for February 16-26. The hearing will be conducted virtually.

A number of members of the community have asked if they can attend. **Yes, they can** silently observe, and we plan to share the link to join the proceedings in our early February newsletter, when it becomes available. (As readers may know, LPRO is a Party in these proceedings, and will be represented in the hearings by a lawyer and planner.) More information on 2908 Yonge can be found on LPRO's [website](#).

Community Shout-Out – “Kindred Spirits”

Early in May, LPRO resident Janet Purcell sent an email out to ten friends in the neighbourhood to see if they would like to make sandwiches for the Good Shepherd Shelter. She was soon joined by her good friend Susan Sainsbury and what started as ten friends making sandwiches grew to over 180 families making weekly contributions to Good Shepherd, Native Cultural Centre, Children’s Aid Society, and Ernestine’s Women’s Shelter! By the end of 16 weeks, “Sandwich Sisters” had donated more than 20,000 handmade sandwiches, other food items, masks, personal care products, baby products, and financial contributions to those in need throughout Toronto.

Last fall, this evolved into a new initiative called “Kindred Spirits Opportunity for Giving”, united in the goal of providing much needed donations to people who find themselves homeless. In the spirit of holiday giving, Kindred Spirits, now 203 members strong, decided to support Ernestine’s Women’s Shelter. Working together, the group provided food, household, health and hygiene, and baby/toddler items, as well as \$36,000 in gift cards and financial contributions, to Ernestine’s at a time when their need was even greater than usual. Kindred Spirits will continue to offer other Opportunities for Giving throughout the year. If you are interested in becoming a Kindred Spirit, you are welcome to email Janet Purcell at kindredspiritsgiving@gmail.com.

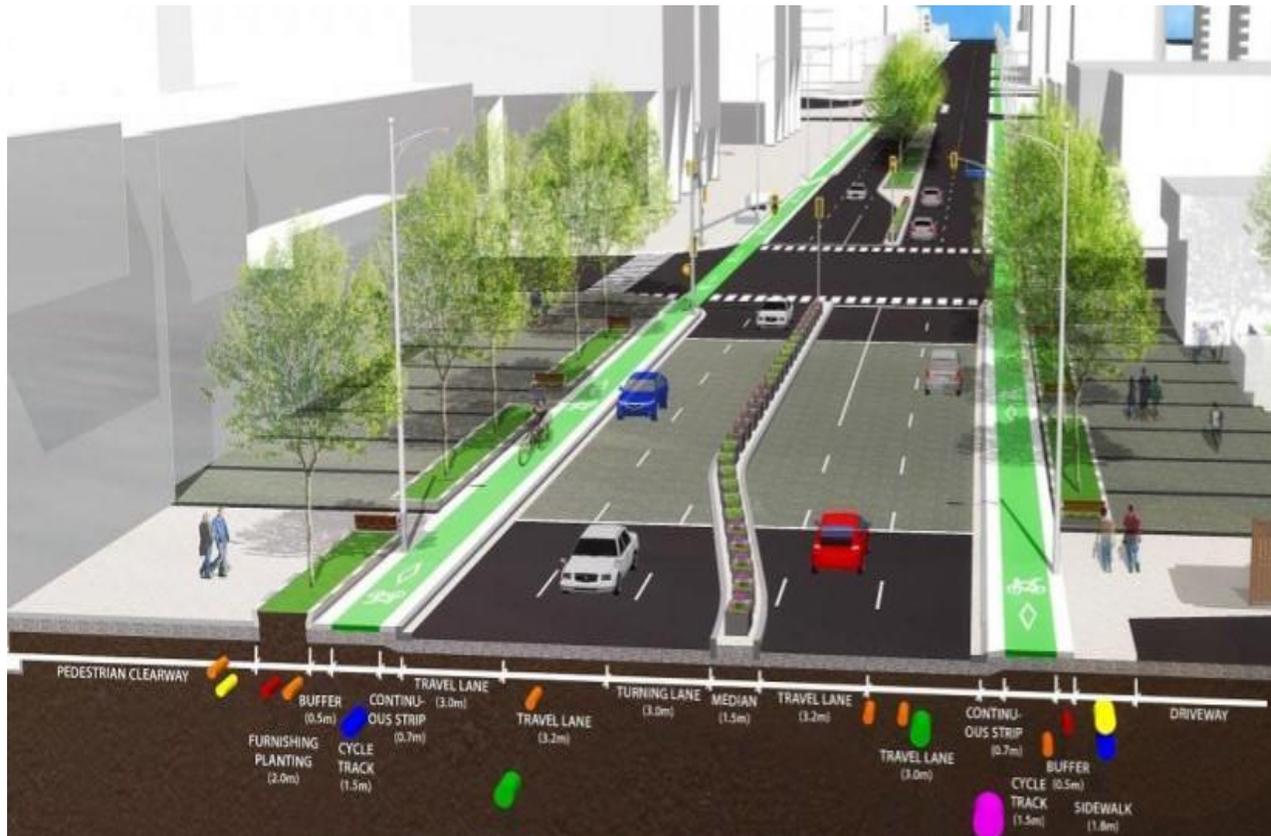


Transform Yonge (Sheppard to Finch)

North York has just made significant strides in improving its main street for safety, liveability and equity with the approval of the Transform Yonge project by City Council in a 18-5 vote.

Transform Yonge is an initiative to revitalize Yonge Street by transforming this major artery between Finch and Sheppard into a liveable main street where people can enjoy shopping, restaurants, and a vibrant cityscape. The plan is to rebalance the use of the shared street space by reducing six traffic lanes to four, widening sidewalks, adding planting, benches and outdoor patios and creating a protected cycle track separated from motorists and pedestrians. The project was championed by the Councillor for the area, John Filion, and had the strong support of our Councillor Colle who spoke eloquently before Council about the need to re-create vibrant main streets in our community. Mayor John Tory also supported the project. Matt Elliott, city columnist, reports that the Danforth transformation this summer (with bike lanes and patios) helped convince the Mayor that this Yonge Street plan is good. Mayor Tory says he got emails about how “the city looked better and felt better” because of the Danforth project.

There has never been a more critical time to support main street retail between the pandemic restrictions and the growing popularity of online shopping.



The design for the reconstruction of Yonge Street from Florence Avenue/Avondale Avenue to Hendon Avenue/Bishop Avenue includes:

- a cross-section reduction from six to four lanes
- wider sidewalks and boulevards
- new and enhanced pedestrian crossings – traffic signals and turn restrictions at some intersections
- a centre landscaped median
- protected bicycle lanes (cycle tracks)
- on-street lay-bys for parking, loading and deliveries, where right-of way width permits

- the removal of both northbound and southbound left-turn lanes at the intersection of Yonge Street and Sheppard Avenue
- modifications in the section of Finch Avenue and Hendon Avenue/Bishop Avenue to improve TTC bus travel

This decision by Council comes a few weeks after it voted in favour of a study to determine the viability of temporary bike lanes on Yonge from Bloor to Lawrence. The Yonge TOMorrow streetscape reconstruction plan for downtown Yonge is also in the design stages.

1829, The Lawrences

Bedford Park Residents Organization article by Gary Schlee, posted January 3, 2021:

“For nearly 100 years, various members of the Lawrence family played prominent roles as farmers and merchants at the corner of Yonge Street and the Fourth Concession. So, it’s not surprising that the concession sideroad eventually came to be known as Lawrence Avenue.” [Read the full article](#)



Harvest time at the John Lawrence farm on the northwest corner of Yonge and Lawrence circa 1895. Courtesy of  Toronto Public Library Digital Archives.

COVID

City Vaccine Website: The City has launched a website to keep residents up to date on COVID-19 vaccines. Visit toronto.ca/covid19vaccine for real time and updated information.

City Lockdown! - Visit the [City of Toronto website](https://toronto.ca) for new information and resources.

Toronto Public Health Hotline

8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Call if you have questions about COVID-19.

Telephone: 416-338-7600

TTY: 416-392-0658

Email: PublicHealth@toronto.ca

Bloomberg CityLab Article: [How the Coronavirus Recovery Is Changing Cities](#)

As cities emerge from coronavirus lockdowns, the way people use parks, stores, restaurants, transit, streets and homes is changing in ways both subtle and dramatic.



It's OK not to feel OK

Many people may feel sad, stressed, anxious, confused, scared or angry during the COVID-19 pandemic. These are normal and common responses to unexpected or stressful situations.

Support is available. The City of Toronto has partnered with ten organizations to help connect residents to free telephone, text and online mental health support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[City of Toronto - For more information and help: CLICK.](#)

FEELINGS OF STRESS AND ANXIETY ARE NORMAL DURING COVID-19

Stay connected.
Play a virtual game, check in on a neighbour, have a video chat.



Be active & take care of yourself.
Exercise, eat well, get enough sleep.



Take time to engage virtually or by phone with friends, family & loved ones.



Learn something new. Try a new hobby or take an online course.



Help someone else.
Doing good can feel good.



Reach out for help.
Talk to someone you trust or seek professional support.



TORONTO.CA/COVID19

 **TORONTO** Public Health

City Hall Live Online Performances

City Hall Live Spotlight, a weekly livestreamed concert series to support the local music industry and provide Toronto residents with music experiences at home during the COVID-19 pandemic, will kick-off January 14 at 7:30 p.m. Residents are encouraged to make a night of it by ordering in their favourite takeout and settling in for a concert in the comfort of their own home.

City Hall Live Spotlight will feature professionally produced livestreamed videos of Toronto musicians performing at shuttered music venues and other affected music-related businesses around the city. Each performance will be accompanied by a brief introduction to the location and its role in Toronto's music industry.

City Hall Live Spotlight kicks off on January 14 at 7:30 p.m. online, livestreamed from the Phoenix Concert Theatre and is scheduled to run weekly through the spring. The first performance of the series will feature Colombian-Canadian artist Lido Pimienta, a Grammy Award nominee for her 2020 album *Miss Colombia* and winner of the 2017 Polaris Music Prize for her album *La Papessa*.

Performances will be available at <https://www.facebook.com/CityHallLiveSpotlight> and on HappinApp at <https://happin.app/>, a new Toronto-based livestreaming platform that enhances the music concert fan experience and improves revenue streams for artists.

The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant economic impact on Toronto residents and businesses, including the music industry. During each City Hall Live Spotlight performance, viewers who are able to can choose to make a donation, 100 per cent of which will support the Unison Benevolent Fund's vital work to help musicians and music industry workers in crisis.

Toronto-based musicians can apply for City Hall Live Spotlight and other City of Toronto Music Office programs at [CLICK](#).



Crime is Down in Toronto

While we all have met many challenges during the COVID-19 “interesting times.” One benefit of changing our way of life and of the lock-downs is a significant reduction in crime in Toronto. The following chart reflects a comparison of 2019 and 2020 statistics from the Major Crime Indicators 2020, (MCI last updated January 4, 2021).

MCI Category	2019 Offences	2020 Offences	% Change
Assault	21,093	18,165	-14
Auto Theft	5,321	5,654	6
Break & Enter	8,551	6,965	-19
Murder	79	71	-10
Robbery	3,730	2,852	-24
Sexual Violation	2,832	2,325	-18
Theft Over	1,401	1,234	-12
Total	43,007	37,266	-13

Home Criminal Prevention Program

“An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” (Benjamin Franklin)

The Toronto Police Service offers the “Crime Prevention through Environmental Design” program, which can be found at [CPTED Program TPS](#). Check out their website to complete your own audit of your home by answering the questions. The goal of this program is to make your home less appealing to criminals.

For more information go to the Toronto Police [website](#).

Lytton Park Volunteers Welcome!

Interested in connecting to your local community and having positive local impact? Become an LPRO volunteer!

Opportunities include newsletter and website contributor, photographer, local historian, event organizer, issue advocate (e.g. bicycling, greening Lytton Park). We also welcome those who would like to share their expertise in urban planning.

For more information, contact LyttonParkResidentsOrg@gmail.com, with *Volunteer* in the subject line.

Newsletter Content - We are always on the lookout for interesting material for the LPRO newsletter. If you have suggestions/ideas, please send them to LyttonParkResidentsOrg@gmail.com, with *Newsletter* in the subject line.

Interested in connecting to your local community and having positive local impact? Become an LPRO volunteer!

In the Hood!

Little Free Library, the world's largest book sharing movement, is a neighbourhood book exchange where everyone is invited to take a book or leave a book and the goal is to inspire reading and strengthen communities.

For information on how to start your own, consult [LittleFreeLibrary](https://www.littlefreelibrary.org/).

Please take necessary COVID cautions.



These libraries are ALL located in Lytton Park!

Lytton Park Residents' Organization
Annual Membership \$30.00 per household
Join or Renew for 2021!

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 2021**. 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., MAILING ADDRESS PO Box 1348, 2708 Yonge St., Toronto, ON M4P 3J4"; 2) or even easier - donate via Credit Card/PayPal: visit <http://www.lyttonparkro.ca/join-volunteer-donate>; or 3) Cheques with this form can also be dropped off at 235 Glenview Avenue.

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2021 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!