



# anabailão

## TORONTO DAVENPORT

CITY COUNCILLOR

COMMITTED TO OUR COMMUNITY

Summer/Fall 2020



## Dear Neighbours,

As this year began, we could not have imagined the major disruptions we have had to face as a city, a country and the world as a whole, with the COVID-19 pandemic being the most significant challenge we have faced in generations. **The COVID-19 pandemic has uprooted our way of life and forced us to act with urgency and solidarity.** I am proud to see how our community, city and country has responded during this unprecedented time. We have worked to protect our neighbours and support the most vulnerable in our communities.

**I believe you will agree that during this time we have never seen a response that was so rapid and comprehensive.** As a city, we have housed thousands in need, provided meals to children and seniors, accelerated important public transportation initiatives and implemented innovative ways to support local businesses including reimagining the use of our streets and employing technology to help them serve their customers and to recover.

**We have also witnessed an equally powerful movement at the community level,** from existing agencies

helping more people with reduced resources, to community members creating groups to assist our neighbours with their immediate needs. We have also seen a call to action for us to change the role of policing in our city, to better serve and support Black, Indigenous and people of colour as well as how we respond to those in mental health crisis.

**This pandemic has also highlighted inequities in our society.** It has become clear that not all have been affected equally. In our long-term care homes, for people experiencing homelessness and in both racialized and lower-income communities, we have seen this pandemic spread more extensively. While this is a complicated and challenging issue to resolve, as a city we not only need to strive to support our neighbours, but to fight for more equity and opportunity for all.

As we work toward our recovery and rebuild, our priority must remain to provide better supports to these communities. **We need to ensure that everyone who works in Toronto is able to live in Toronto.** This means investing in policies that we know support these communities, including with respect to housing and transit. The City has begun

taking important steps, including through the creation of the 10 Year Housing Action Plan and the implementation of bus priority lanes, as well as measures to create a fairer, more supportive city for all residents.

**As we move towards recovery from the pandemic, the City is taking substantial and measurable steps on the important community and City-wide work that is needed.** Through this newsletter, I am keeping you informed about all of our efforts as we work together. From parks and community work, to traffic calming and affordable housing initiatives, there is progress being made in our communities and across Toronto. Included in this progress is support for those most in need and efforts to help all recover from the pandemic, so we as a community and a City can continue to build the foundations of a more just, equitable and responsive City. In order to become the city we all envision and deserve, we need to ensure that all of us can grow, thrive and participate.

In Community, *Ana*

## Anti-Racism and Changes to Policing

Over the past few months our City and many others across the world, have witnessed several very disturbing events, including the deaths of George Floyd in the United States and Regis Korchinski-Paquet in Toronto. We recognized the need to act more quickly and decisively on issues of anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism as well as how we respond to those in mental health crises. Our City had already been taking steps to meet these challenges, but we recognized that we needed to significantly advance these actions and Toronto City Council has now made very clear and time-specific commitments to do so.

At the June Council meeting, I along with my colleagues voted to take the steps needed to quickly and effectively meet these challenges. These changes include a commitment to making the City's first funding priority for future budgets to be centred around robust system of social supports and services, as well as to develop alternative models of community safety response that will include the creation of non-police led response to emergency calls, where police are not required. Our commitments will achieve the objectives we all want in a way that has guaranteed timelines for measurable results. Our path forward means doing things differently, including looking to approaches such as the CAHOOTS

program, which deploys unarmed, medically trained crisis intervention assistance personnel to deal with a range of community challenges including homelessness, intoxication, substance abuse, mental illness, dispute resolution, and basic medical emergency care. Also, we have advanced more quickly the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism which in 2018 produced 22 specific recommendations following a great deal of hard work by community leaders, stakeholders, individuals and City representatives.

We are now able to move forward quickly with an approach that will divest funds from the police budget and reallocate and assign them to non-policing forms of public safety and community support in a way that is quick and measured with specific timelines. In order to continue this progress, Council has requested an update from the City Manager on the implementation of these actions by the beginning of 2021, as well as an Auditor General report this winter. In August, the Mayor submitted a report for action to the Toronto Police Services Board based on Council's direction and this was approved at their subsequent meeting moving action forward as committed to a June's Council meeting. I appreciated the input of all who participated in my town hall meeting on this issue in July.



Councillor Bailão unveiling a new mural in Bloordale!

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Since March, our City, Province and Country have come together to meet one of the most significant challenges we have ever had to face. Beginning in March we were required to stay home and go out only for essentials such as groceries, medical supplies and brief periods of exercise.

Fortunately, these actions, along with physical distancing and following other public health directives, allowed us to begin to slowly return to normal, albeit a new "normal." Our Medical Officers of Health have guided our decisions including directives such as wearing of masks when in indoor public spaces. All of these efforts from March to now were designed to reduce the spread

of the virus and allow us to return to normal as quickly as possible. Our "numbers" are now well under control and while we welcome this progress we also remember those who lost their lives, especially those within long-term care facilities, and we continue to support their loved ones where we can. Of course, we thank our front-line workers from those serving in long-term care homes, hospitals, testing centres, grocery stores, pharmacies, paramedics and the list goes on. They sacrificed a great deal to help us and sadly some even lost their lives as they worked with dedication and bravery to help all of us and our families and friends through this public health emergency.

## SIGNUP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER

I send out a regular e-newsletter with important community and city information to help keep Davenport residents informed.



This includes items such as community events, updates on key issues, public consultations, and more!

If you would like to receive these e-mails, please visit [www.anabailao.ca/join](http://www.anabailao.ca/join) to sign up!

STAY IN TOUCH

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## West Toronto Railpath (Realignment and Extension)



### Extension Update

This past February we hosted a well-attended consultation on the West Toronto Railpath extension from the existing trail which ends at Dundas Street to south of Queen Street West. With design work completed, we have begun the process for the necessary land transfers and expect construction to begin in 2022.

### Realignment Update

After a series of meetings and public consultations we have successfully negotiated the realignment of the existing Railpath. The community and I have secured the construction on the realignment, which will be funded by Metrolinx, the provincial transit agency. Through our meetings with community members, we were able to keep the unique flair of the Railpath including existing public art, as well as secure meaningful additions such as a pollinator park, the replacement of invasive plants with native trees, living noise walls, and accessibility improvements for the Bloor GO station. While the City continues to finalize details with Metrolinx, at this point in time Metrolinx is maintaining that construction is still expected to begin in late 2020.

You can learn more about both of these projects at [toronto.ca/westrailpath](http://toronto.ca/westrailpath).

## 2 Harvie Avenue

This past spring, Enbridge upgraded their infrastructure at 2 Harvie Avenue. Working with the utility and local residents as well as the Corso Italia BIA, we used this as an opportunity to beautify this property, including the addition of greenery and boulders, which will serve as benches. I am pleased to see this work now under way.



## Dufferin Grove Park Improvements

Progress on the improvements to Dufferin Grove Park's Northwest corner have been steady, with a lot of input from the community. Through extensive community consultations dating back to 2016, what began as a 'state of good repair' project evolved into one which addresses not only safety and accessibility, but sustainability and usability of the area.

One of the major renovations is to replace the rink slab and refrigeration equipment, which was originally installed in 1993 and is prone to failure. The new equipment will make the facility more reliable so the community can enjoy this rink throughout the winter season and for years to come. In addition, the renovations will create larger and fully accessible gardening beds, a more functional kitchen, a green roof with a pollinator focus for the Zamboni shed, additional basketball nets, a larger multi-purpose room with a gas fireplace, more bike parking and improved skate storage.

Due to COVID-19, the construction procurement



process and tender was extended. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2020 with completion in spring 2022. The ice rink is anticipated to reopen in November 2021.

Thank you to everyone who has been involved in this process. With nearly 300 hours of volunteer time and hundreds of residents participating, it is clear that Dufferin Grove is one of the most beloved parks in Toronto. If you want to learn more about this project or get involved, you can do so at: [toronto.ca/Dufferin-GroveRevitalization](http://toronto.ca/Dufferin-GroveRevitalization).



## Dupont Planters

In an effort to beautify the neighbourhood, make it more enjoyable for pedestrians to walk on Dupont and support the flourishing new businesses as well as improve safety, members of the community worked with my office and the City's Public Realm Division to improve our planters, review some traffic matters and plan new murals. These efforts, including securing the sod and plants, were led by Kevin Putnam and Vicky MacGregor, who I want to recognize and thank on behalf of the community.

## 177 Caledonia Road Parkette

I am pleased to share that a new parkette will be created at 177 Caledonia Road. Working with the community, we have submitted names for the parkette to ensure it reflects the neighbourhood's wishes. Currently, staff are reviewing potential names.

An online survey with the shortlisted names will be

available for three weeks for residents to provide input, before a motion is presented at Community Council to approve the winning name.

This park will be built by the developer of the site as part of the development approvals. This work is scheduled for construction in the spring and summer of 2022.



## Bloor West Bikeway Expansion

The expansion of the Bloor West Bikeway is an important cycling route, connecting people from Runnymede Road into the heart of the city. While this project was originally scheduled for 2022, I worked with the City's cycling staff and my Councillor colleagues along the route to expedite the construction. This project is nearing completion and will create a safe, connected and separated bikeway. I want to thank the community and local businesses for their input through the extensive consultation processes to make sure local needs were taken into account.



## Pessoa Park

I am pleased to see the work on Pessoa Park has finally been completed. Like many of you, I had frustrations with the delays on this work by the contractor. In order to address this, I worked with City staff, the developer and contractor to resolve the issues, express the community's disappointment and expedite the work. Despite these challenges, I am excited that our community has this much improved green space to enjoy.



## 261 Nairn Parkette

A new green space in the Ward is taking shape at 261 Nairn Avenue! With demolition completed on this site, design work will begin in 2021, along with public consultations. While I had hoped to see this move forward more quickly, COVID-19 has caused delays on these projects. Despite this delay, a temporary park is being prepared for the community. The hot temperatures over the summer caused challenges with growing the new grass, but we hope the new park can be opened to the community soon. Watch for coming public consultations!

## Davenport Village Splash Pad

I am pleased to share that the design of the splash pad project at 18 Foundry Avenue has been completed and the construction has begun. It is great to see this important addition moving forward for the families in the community who can enjoy this new feature. Thank you to all the residents who have put in time to consult on the design of this work. To see the design work, please visit: [www.anabailao.com/FoundryAve\\_SplashPad](http://www.anabailao.com/FoundryAve_SplashPad).



## A New Public Park at 150 Harrison Avenue

The Parks, Forestry & Recreation (PF&R) Division is working towards an accelerated construction of a public park adjacent to the modular housing building at 150 Harrison Street. Staff will begin the design in fall 2020 and the construction is to begin in 2021. The City will launch a community consultation process to inform the design of the park. More information will be available in the coming months.

## Little Portugal on Dundas new logo



Little Portugal and Dundas West Business Improvement Areas have joined together to form the Little Portugal on Dundas BIA. Their new logo reflects their history, while embracing the future.

## Beaconsfield Flood Protection Study

In order to address flooding concerns in the Beaconsfield community, the City has initiated an environmental assessment to identify sewer and drainage system improvements.

The initial step of this study is data collection, which is currently being conducted. The City has created an email for residents so they can directly share their experiences and ask their questions.

This email is: [floodingstudy@toronto.ca](mailto:floodingstudy@toronto.ca).

Once the data has been collected, the City will return to the community to present a variety of solutions for the identified issues and to consult on the best proposals for the neighbourhood. For more information or to get involved, please visit [toronto.ca/BFEA](http://toronto.ca/BFEA) and click on Study Area 42.

## Turnberry North Park

After public consultations we have reached a solution that will allow residents to enjoy this Silverthorn area park by having a playground and a shaded area to sit down and relax. Work on this project will start this fall.



## Earlscourt Centennial and Park Improvements

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Earlscourt Park. I brought together local organizations and residents to plan our celebrations but unfortunately due to COVID-19 these had to be significantly scaled down. The group is working with Heritage Toronto to move forward with some form of recognition, including the installation of a plaque detailing the park's history, the painting of a mural and some smaller events. Stay tuned!

This year there has also been progress on park

improvements. In late August we held a public meeting to present information on a new splash pad and to gather input from the community. We want your feedback to inform these upgrades! Please visit the project website to learn more and fill out the online survey: [toronto.ca/EarlscourtSplashPad](http://toronto.ca/EarlscourtSplashPad).

The fieldhouse washrooms, which began as state of good repair work, will also now be receiving accessibility upgrades as well. Construction is planned for winter 2020.

## Bike Share 2020 Expansion

Bike Share has conducted their annual expansion, branching further north in our Ward and providing more stations in the highest use communities. In Ward 9, we have 9 new stations:

- JJP Community Centre
- Lisgar Park
- Lisgar and Sudbury
- Sheridan and Dundas
- St. Helens and College
- Bloor and Emerson
- Wallace and Pauline
- 160 Geary Ave
- Davenport and Symington



## Green Line

In July, 80 participants joined a virtual meeting to discuss the Green Line park proposal as an expansion of Geary Avenue Park. We received good feedback on the greenery, amenities and on a Dog Off Leash Area. This work is being coordinated with Transportation Services at the City to implement traffic calming measures as well. Construction is scheduled for 2021-2022. More details on the project can be found at [www.toronto.ca/greenline](http://www.toronto.ca/greenline), including with respect to the next public consultation this fall.

## Sam Ciccolini Laneway Naming

On February 14 we officially dedicated the laneway behind St. Clair Avenue West and Dufferin Street to Sam Ciccolini, a noted member of the Community in the Corso Italia area. Sam has been supporting this community for decades by creating employment opportunities, hosting charity events and through youth sports and camps.



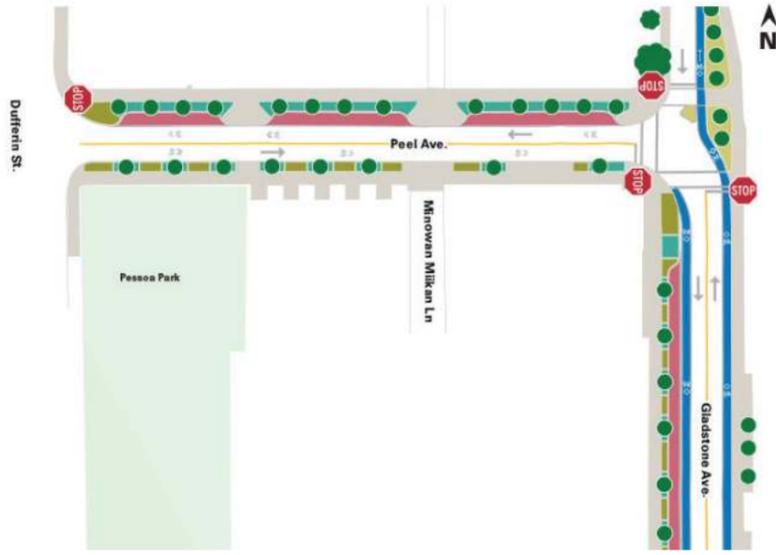
## Bristol Playground Improvements

The City of Toronto is improving the Bristol Avenue Parkette playground as part of the State of Good Repair program. We launched a survey to gather community input on what improvements are important for the neighbourhood. Thank you to everyone who has taken time to share your thoughts to ensure that this improved playground reflects the needs of our community. Construction is scheduled to begin this fall.

# Peel Gladstone Reconstruction

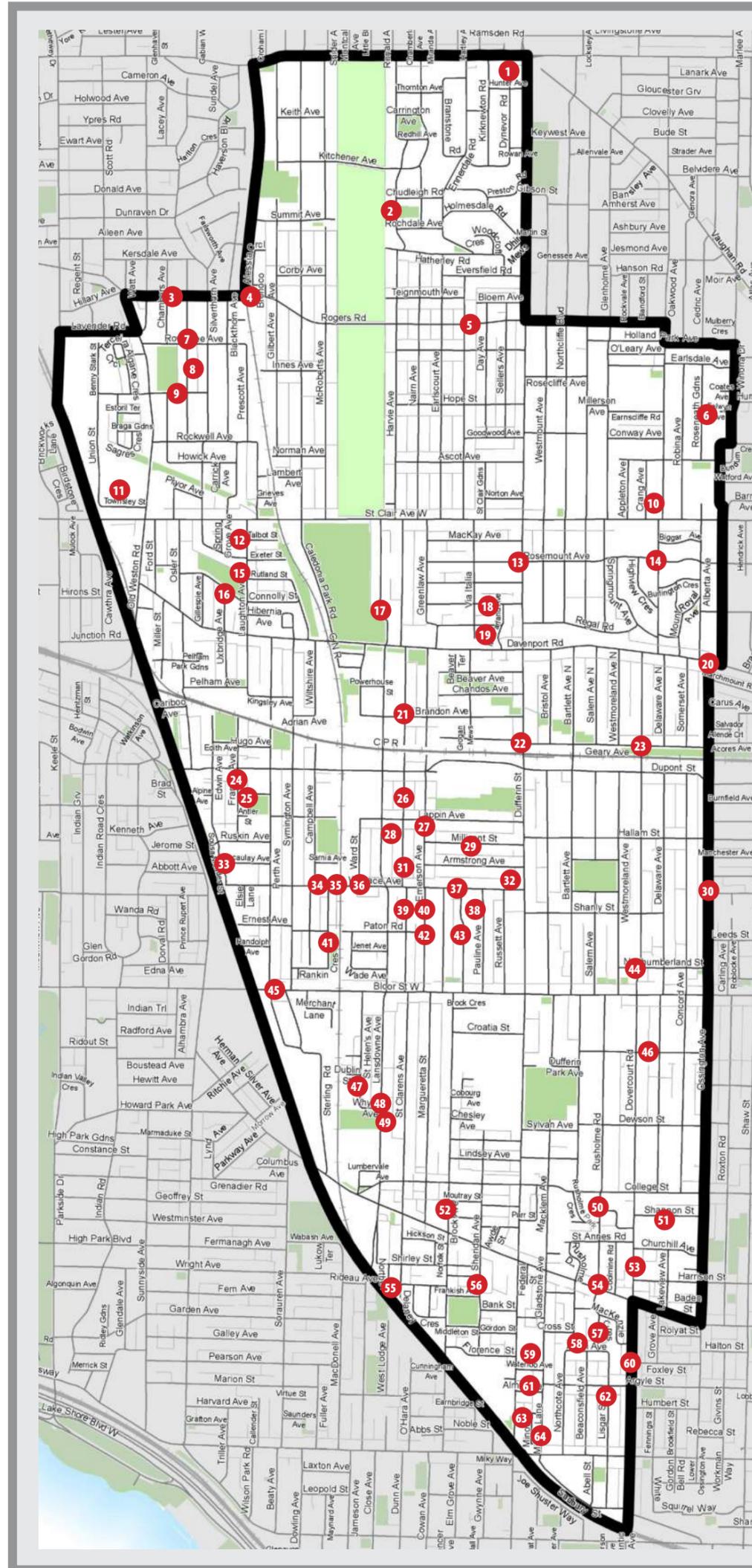
After numerous public consultations, the final design for this reconstruction has been completed. This project will include pedestrian and cycling improvements, as well as numerous green street features. I want to thank everyone who participated in the consultations and helped to move this project forward.

The work is scheduled to begin in 2021, and the City will be delivering construction notices in advance.



# Dovercourt Road Reconstruction

Work has begun on the reconstruction of Dovercourt Road, including the replacement of substandard watermain. This work is being completed in two phases, first from College Street to Dundas Street, then from Dundas Street to Queen Street. This work will be followed by road reconstruction including beautification and the installation of speed humps for traffic calming, as requested by the community during consultations last year. More information on this project can be found at [Toronto.ca/Dovercourt](http://Toronto.ca/Dovercourt).



1. Road resurfacing on Dynevor Rd from Eglinton Ave to Hunter Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
2. Speed humps on Harvie Ave from Chudleigh Rd to Rochdale Ave - Installed
3. PXO at Rogers Rd and Chambers Ave - Installation, 2021
4. Addition of school bus loading zone at St. Nicholas de Bari Catholic School - Installed
5. Traffic light at Rogers Rd and Boon Ave - Installed
6. Speed humps on Roseneath Ave from Earlsdale Ave to Glenhurst Ave- Under review
7. Speed humps on Rowntree Ave from Old Weston Rd to Prescott Ave - Under review
8. Speed humps on Rosethorn Ave from Rogers Rd to Rockwell Ave - Under review
9. Speed humps on Turnberry Ave from Old Weston Rd to Silverthorn Ave - Under review
10. Speed humps on Glenhurst Ave west of Oakwood Ave - Under review
11. Road resurfacing on Townsley St from Union St to Old Weston Rd - Summer/Fall 2020
12. Addition of school drop off zone at St Paul VI Catholic School - Installed
13. Traffic light at Dufferin St and Rosemount Ave - Installed
14. Traffic light at Rosemount Ave and Oakwood Ave - Approved, On Hold
15. Speed humps on Laughton Ave from St Clair Ave W to Davenport Rd - Approved, awaiting installation
16. Crossing lines on Connolly St at Uxbridge Ave - Installation Winter 2020
17. PXO on Lansdowne Ave north of Davenport Rd - Under review
18. Road resurfacing on Peterborough Ave from Via Italia and McFarland Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
19. Road resurfacing Nunes Lane - Spring 2021
20. Traffic light at Dovercourt Rd and Davenport Rd - Installed
21. Traffic Light at Lansdowne Ave and Brandon Ave - Approved, awaiting installation
22. Traffic light at Dufferin St and Geary Ave - Under review
23. Traffic light at Dovercourt Rd and Geary Ave - Installed
24. Road resurfacing on Franklin Ave from Edith Ave to Ruskin Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
25. Changing parking limit from 3 hours to 1 hour on Parkman Ave between Franklin Ave and Perth Ave - Awaiting installation
26. Speed humps on St Clarens Ave from Dupont St to Lappin Ave - Approved, Awaiting installation
27. Sewer Rehabilitation on Lappin Ave from Dufferin St to Ward St - Summer/Fall 2020
28. Speed bumps on public lane south of Lappin Ave between Emerson Ave and Lansdowne Ave - Installation, Spring 2021
29. Speed humps on Millicent St from Emerson Ave to Dufferin St - Installation, Spring 2021
30. Watermain replacement on Ossington Ave from Bloor St to Dupont St - Summer/Fall 2020
31. Speed humps on St Clarens Ave from Lappin Ave to Wallace Ave - Installation, Spring 2021
32. One way northbound on laneway between Wallace Ave and Armstrong Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
33. Addition of loading zone and permit parking on Sousa Mendes St - Under review
34. Addition of staggered parking and planters along Wallace Ave - Installation, Spring 2021
35. Speed humps on Wallace Ave - Installation, Spring 2021
36. Crossing lines on Wallace Ave at Ward St - Installation Winter 2020
37. Road resurfacing on Wallace Ave from Lansdowne St to Dufferin St - Summer/Fall 2020
38. Addition of school bus loading zone at Pauline Public Junior School - Installation, Fall 2020
39. Switch direction (Southbound) on St Clarens Ave from Wallace Ave to Paton Rd - Installation, Spring 2021
40. Switch direction (Northbound) on Emerson Ave from Wallace Ave to Paton Rd - Installation, Spring 2021
41. Speed humps on Rankin Cres from Wallace Ave to Syrington Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
42. Crossing lines on Paton Rd at Emerson Ave - Installation, Spring 2021
43. Additional speed humps on Brock Ave from Bloor St to Wallace Ave - Under review
44. Traffic light at Dovercourt Rd and Northumberland St - Installed
45. Turn prohibitions at Perth Ave and Bloor St - Under review
46. Speed humps on Hepbourne St from Havelock St to Ossington Ave - Under review
47. Parking changes on St Helens Ave from west to east side, adding 23 spaces - Approved, awaiting installation
48. PXO on Lansdowne Ave north of Whytock Ave - Relocation, Summer 2020
49. Traffic light at Lansdowne Ave and Whytock Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
50. One way northbound on Rusholme Rd from Heydon Park Rd to College St - Under review
51. Road resurfacing on Shannon St from Dovercourt Rd to Ossington Ave - Completed
52. Speed humps on Brock Ave from Dundas St to College St - Installed
53. Road resurfacing and watermain replacement on Dovercourt Rd from College St to Sudbury St - Fall/Winter 2020
54. Traffic light at Dundas St and Lisgar St - Approved, awaiting installation
55. Road resurfacing of Northern Pl from Shirley St to St Clarens Ave - Summer/Fall 2020
56. Road resurfacing of Sheridan Ave from Dundas St to Florence St - Summer/Fall 2020
57. Parking switching to west side on Lisgar St from Dundas St to Argyle St - Installed
58. Road resurfacing on Beaconsfield Ave from Mackenzie Ave and Argyle St - Summer/Fall 2020
59. Extension of school drop off zone for Alexander Muir/ Gladstone Public Junior and Senior School from Gladstone Ave to Dufferin St - Installed
60. Road reconstruction on Dovercourt Rd from Queen St to Dundas St - Fall/Winter 2020
61. Watermain replacement on Alma Ave from Gladstone Ave to Dufferin St - Summer/Fall 2020
62. Watermain replacement on Lisgar St from Queen St to Argyle St - Summer/Fall 2020
63. Road reconstruction on Peel Ave from Gladstone Ave to Dufferin St - Spring 2021
64. Road reconstruction on Gladstone Ave from Peel Ave to Queen St - Spring 2021

## 466 Dovercourt Road (Matador)

In March, City Planning staff tabled a preliminary report to Toronto and East York Community Council and worked with my office to schedule a community consultation.

This work was delayed due to COVID-19, but a public engagement session was held virtually on September 2nd. In light of the feedback provided, the developer is working to refine their plans and City Planning will submit their final report later this year or early next year.



## Dufferin Mall

Possible redevelopment of the Dufferin Mall site has brought about strong community engagement in Dufferin Grove and Bloordale neighbourhoods.

The mall owner and developer, Primaris REIT, filed an application to the City. Soon after, they filed an application to the Local Planning and Appeals Tribunal (the LPAT), because they did not agree with the directions provided by City Staff and my office. Our concerns were based on comprehensive site planning and shadowing over the new park and proposed neighbourhood to the North.

Despite the appeal, the City hosted a public meeting in February to provide community members direction to inform City Planning's position at the LPAT. Seeing plenty more room for community engagement, I convened a Working Group of members from the public meeting, local residents and stakeholder groups. The group continues to work with my office, city staff and consultants from the developer's team to return maximum local benefits as a result of all this growth and intensification.

## Sistering Update - COVID operations, mural

Throughout the pandemic, Sistering has been operating to serve vulnerable women in Toronto. While their Bloor Street location was offering only limited service until July, they were operating all of their services out of a community centre in Parkdale to allow for social distancing.

In July, I joined the Sistering team to unveil their new mural, which was created by a local artist and inspired by community input. The quote it features "Until all of us have made it, none of us have made it", is from Rosemary Brown, the first black women MPP in Ontario, a recipient of the Order of Canada and a social worker.



## 980-990 Bloor St. West and 756 Dovercourt Road

This project, once the subject of disagreement between the developer and the City, will be moving forward after we reached a settlement with the new owners at the Ontario Municipal Board (now known as the Local Planning Appeals Tribunal). City Planning worked closely with a new owner on the site to address community suggestions which allowed the settlement to be reached. A number of changes have been made:

- The original 14-storey height has been reduced to 11-storeys, to prevent shadowing in the parks and residential areas;
- The building step-back has been lowered from the 4th floor to the 3rd floor on the south and east sides of the building;
- The south, east and west facing balconies have been replaced with Juliette balconies

- The façade of the west building was reduced from 8 to 6-storeys, with a new 5.5 meter step back;
- The replacement of all rental units lost from the existing building demolition have been secured; and
- A \$400,000 contribution was secured from the applicant to be used towards parks and laneway improvements.

In addition, we have secured the replacement of all rental units from the existing building to keep that supply available and I went the extra mile for tenants and negotiated a top-up rent supplement with the developer. Furthermore, I saved heritage elements (two terra cotta lion heads and a beautiful set of stained glass windows) that a local heritage expert outlined as having merit and donated through the architectural conservancy.

## Initiating the St Clair/Old Weston Area Study

My office has been working closely with neighbouring Councillor Frances Nunziata, City Planning, local landowners and the broader community to take a comprehensive look at the St. Clair and Old Weston area, to see how we can make improvements to help people move around more conveniently and deliver substantial public infrastructure as a new community grows around what will become a regional/local transit hub.

City Planning staff have procured a consultant team and are moving forward with a community engagement process. We will be hosting public consultation meetings with property owner and other stakeholders, plus area residents throughout the autumn. More information can be found at:

[toronto.ca/keele-st-clair-local-area-study/](http://toronto.ca/keele-st-clair-local-area-study/)



The completed St Clair West Transportation Master Plan will reshape our infrastructure to support this growing community



## Galleria Mall Development

Alongside Abigail Bond from the City's Affordable Housing Secretariat, we participated in the kickoff event for the Galleria redevelopment project on July 30, where we broke ground on the site which will include 150 new affordable housing units. In negotiations on this project, we were also able to secure a number of important community benefits, including a new community centre twice the size of Wallace Emerson Community Centre, new day care facilities, and a new park.

In July, my office convened the Community Construction Liaison Committee to serve throughout the construction process on Block 5 of the project. This group will work with our office and the developer to mitigate disturbances to the surrounding community, maximize community participation and allow for more community-friendly construction processes.

## Missing Middle

In July, a report on Expanding Housing Options in Toronto Neighbourhoods was tabled at the Planning and Housing Committee providing me, along with fellow Committee members, a chance to refine the work plan.

Policies which will be worked on in the coming months and brought in stages for implementation will look to create more gentle density across our city's neighbourhood areas, adding much needed housing stock to our communities. These neighbourhood areas, many of which are actually shrinking in population, are located near our parks, schools, libraries and community centres. This important initiative will help create vibrant neighbourhoods and allow for a diversity of housing options to meet the contemporary housing needs of a dynamic and growing global city.

We want to hear your experience with missing middle housing! A large section of Davenport permits this type of housing in our R-zoned residential areas. We invite those of you receiving this newsletter who either live in a duplex, triplex, quad, townhouse, stacked town or 3-4 storey apartment building to share your experiences with fellow Torontonians. In areas where these housing types are not currently permitted, it would be helpful to hear from fellow Torontonians who have first-hand experience! Tell us what it's like to live in this form of housing in our neighbourhoods. What does it mean to you to have this housing choice available? Write to [councillor\\_bailao@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_bailao@toronto.ca) with the subject I Live in Davenport "Missing Middle" with your story for us to share!



## TCHC Capital Investments – 2020

The Toronto Community Housing Company 2020 Building Renewal Capital Budget of \$350 million is a \$37-million increase compared with 2019. It's the largest-ever annual investment in capital repairs since the TCHC was created in 2001. In Ward 9 alone, we have seen nearly \$15 million in TCHC capital investments since 2018, with nearly \$6 million invested in 2020:

- 11 Randolph Avenue - \$258,945
- 136-150 Perth Avenue - \$ 48,992
- 331 Bartlett - \$ 337,738
- Campbell/Antler - \$ 124,869
- McCormick Park - \$ 175,820
- Pelham Park - \$ 2,992,194
- Symington Place - \$ 1,184,709
- Rankin Apartments - \$ 773,821

Through its 2020 building capital renewal program, the TCHC will make more than 10,000 individual capital improvements to benefit TCHC tenants, including roof repairs, accessibility and energy efficiency improvements.

## Bloor Dufferin Development

As you know, the Toronto District School Board sold the lands they owned at Bloor Street West and Dufferin Street to a developer. Since then I have worked with residents, community groups, City staff, the TDSB and the developer to secure all that we could for the community. The proposal includes 7 buildings with 2,162 units, an affordable housing building, a 30,000 sq. ft. community hub including a child care centre, a 38,000 sq ft. public park, a public plaza, new retail opportunities and the creation of a \$17 million not for profit land trust which will see 50%

of these funds spent in Davenport in support of community initiatives.

The development application was approved in late 2019 and is now advancing through the final stages of the planning and building permitting process. I have been working over the summer to expedite the public benefit components of the project including the affordable housing building. I want to thank all residents that participated in the community consultations and the work of Build a Better Bloor Dufferin, Habitat for Humanity and St. Clare's Multifaith.

## Bloor Street Study - St. Helens Avenue to Perth Avenue

Development pressures in this area have begun to increase, with several properties being bought and companies seeking meetings with my office and the planning department. With large projects proposed and approved at 158 Sterling and several more plans forthcoming along Bloor Street West, and even a few

in between; there is significant development pressure in the area. In order to ensure a comprehensive plan for the area and that growth occurs in a well-planned, comprehensive and coordinated manner, I initiated this study and look forward to consultation with our community.

## 980 Lansdowne Avenue

The final report has been issued at Toronto and East York Community Council, and construction is underway. I am pleased to share that there are a

number of community benefits included in this project, including a new splash pad, a daycare and a \$1.2m cash contribution toward affordable housing.

## 150 Harrison

On June 30th, Toronto City Council, with a near unanimous vote, approved the first two Modular Housing Initiative sites in our City.

One of these sites, 150 Harrison Street, is in our Ward 9 Davenport community. The other is located in Ward 20 at 11 Macey Avenue in Scarborough. The site at 150 Harrison Street is scheduled for completion and occupancy in late fall.

This affordable housing building will be three storeys in height and have 44 bachelor rental units with their own kitchens and bathrooms. Supportive staff will be on-site to assist residents. I have formed a Community Advisory Group of residents and groups so that we can work together to welcome these new residents to our community as well as address any concerns that might arise. I would like to thank everyone for their input, comments and recommendations regarding the site.



Advocating for supportive housing funding from Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

## City's Financial Update

Since the beginning of the pandemic in March of this year, along with so many individuals and other organizations, the City has been facing unprecedented challenges. At the height of the pandemic, the City was losing revenue of over \$65 million per week and for this year (2020), depending on a final assessment of our financial situation, the City could be facing a revenue shortfall of \$1.35 billion or greater. Unlike the federal or provincial governments, the City cannot legally (provincial laws) operate in a deficit. We, along with many other municipalities, called on the federal and provincial governments to assist our City in meeting the financial challenges associated with the pandemic. In July, the federal government announced a \$19 billion program to assist municipalities across the coun-

try including those in Ontario. The Ontario Government, which will manage the federal funding of approximately \$7 billion, has announced that \$4 billion will flow to Ontario's 444 municipalities to support them. This August, the province further clarified how this funding would be allocated. Toronto will receive \$404 million to provide immediate relief for the TTC from the financial pressures caused by the pandemic. In addition, the City will be receiving \$145.7 million in support for COVID-19 related operating costs and pressures and \$118.8 million for social service supports. While these steps are welcomed and very badly needed, they do not fully address the expected City of Toronto revenue shortfall of \$1.35 billion. I am pleased to see progress, but much work remains ahead of us.

## Dufferin Priority Bus Route

Late last year, the TTC recommended that consideration be given to implementing bus priority corridors along five major routes where volumes and ridership is high. One of these routes was Dufferin Street from the Dufferin Gates at Exhibition Place up to Wilson Avenue. While there was no original timeline on the introduction of the lanes, following the Covid-19 public health emergency and the increasing demands on high volume corridors like Dufferin Street as people returned to work, the TTC requested that City Council approve installation on an escalated basis. In July, the Mayor announced that the first of these escalated installations would be installed

along Eglinton Avenue East for September 2020 followed by further installations in the following twelve month period. This first installation was chosen as it required minimal review and design while others like Dufferin Street require more design considerations to ensure flow of traffic, cyclists, etc. When installed, these new corridors will expedite the movement of buses through the corridor and increase safety for passengers in the new normal that is the post-pandemic environment in which we live. The timelines for Dufferin are not determined but there is a report going to the TTC board in Q4 of 2020 which will provide more clarity on the process for Dufferin.

## ActiveTO and CaféTO

Throughout this pandemic, my office has held regular meetings with Business Improvement Areas to hear their concerns and find ways to assist them. The COVID-19 pandemic was felt first and foremost along our main streets. These arteries and avenues lined with local businesses are the commercial engines of our neighbourhood areas and places we love to shop, eat and meet friends. These streets were assisted in becoming vibrant again by key City programs that helped find creative solutions to pressing local issues: people needed to move and exercise, businesses needed space for lineups and bars and restaurants needed to make the most of a shortened season. These needs were met through three new programs - ActiveTO, CurbTO and CaféTO. These programs helped us



Mayor Tory and I meeting with the Little Portugal on Dundas BIA

envision a different use of main streets and a sharing of road-space unlike anything seen since before. Through July-November 2020 these experiments with public space are showing that we can find creative solutions to help people be healthy and safe in 2020 and beyond.

## Housing and People Action Plan

The COVID-19 pandemic quickly exposed pre-existing gaps and vulnerabilities with respect to housing and homelessness. What has become abundantly clear is that good housing policy and good health policy cannot exist without each other. There are fundamental interdependencies with regard to housing, health, social and economic systems. We now aim to emerge stronger from COVID-19 and this must include a clear housing focus based on equity and resilience.

In late March, I led a Housing Action Team, com-

prised of a diverse group of senior leaders from various sectors. We came together to highlight new and emerging issues, collectively identify solutions, and plan for longer term recovery and the creation of a diverse set of affordable and market rental housing opportunities. Together, we formed policy actions and considerations that are aimed at providing stability for cities and people as well as stimulating economic recovery and building resilience through protecting and increasing the supply of housing.

## TORR – Recovery Update

When the Covid-19 public health emergency started in our City in early March, our first priority was to reduce the spread of the virus and protect residents of our City. It has also been a challenging time with respect to the economic impacts on our City and across the country. Individuals, businesses, charities, governments and industries to name a few have been enormously impacted. To assist in the recovery period from this pandemic, the City established the Toronto Office of Recovery and

Rebuild (TORR). The mandate of the TORR is to coordinate engagement, develop recover strategies and recommend actions to rebuild and reimagine the way the City delivers services as well as support the recovery of our businesses and our economy. The Mayor has appointed Saad Rafi, who has a considerable experience both in the public and private sectors, to lead TORR as strategies are developed and implemented through the winter of this year.



Speaking with Mayors and Councillors from across Canada on COVID-19's impact on housing and homelessness.

## Housing Now

I continue to work hard leading our City's efforts to address our housing challenges and in particular with respect to affordability. One of the many initiatives we launched in January 2019 is Housing Now which identified 11 City owned sites for a mix of affordable and market value housing. The first phase will see the creation of 10,000 new homes of which 3,700 will be affordable rental. In May of this year, six new sites were added which will contribute an additional 1,455 to 1,710 new residential units. These sites are located all across the City with the goal of providing safe, secure and affordable housing for those who need it.

## Supporting Live Music Venues

While COVID-19 has affected all of us, those working in the "gig" economy have been some of the most impacted. Performers and entertainers add greatly to the culture of our city and the happiness of our communities. In order to support them, on May 28, Council passed a proposal from the Toronto Music Advisory Council to allow live music venues to claim a 50% property tax break.

As a member of the Toronto Music Advisory Council, I am glad that this successful recommendation to City Council led to 45 live music venues receiving a combined \$1.7 million in property tax relief. This relief will support Toronto's live music industry and address the unprecedented challenges that are threatening live music venues across the city. These efforts will directly support many of our favourite Ward 9 venues, including Alchemy, The Baby G, Burdock, the Drake Hotel, Duffy's Tavern, Lula Lounge, The Painted Lady, the Piston, Wayward, and 254 Lansdowne.

## HousingTO 2020-2030

One of the most significant developments in our efforts to address our City's housing challenges was the approval of the HousingTO 2020-2030 Housing Action Plan in late 2019.

The result of years of work and wide ranging consultations with stakeholders, residents, housing providers, City staff and many more, the Housing TO 2020-2030 Housing Action Plan will address housing challenges ranging from those who are homeless to those seeking rental and ownership housing to people in need of long-term care. The Housing Action Plan will support 341,000 households and provide for 40,000 new affordable rental homes including 18,000 new supportive homes and 10,000 new units for homes that are aimed at women and girls including female-led households. The total cost of the Housing Action Plan over the ten years will be over \$24 billion. The City has committed its portion of the funding and is working with the provincial and federal governments to secure theirs. You can find more information at [toronto.ca/housingto](http://toronto.ca/housingto).

**HELPFUL NUMBERS**

**Telehealth Ontario**

Tel.: 1-866-797-0000 • Call if you develop COVID-19 symptoms.

**Toronto Public Health Hotline**

Tel.: 416-338-7600 • 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
Call if you have questions about COVID-19. Translation is available in multiple languages.  
TTY: 416-392-0658 • Email: PublicHealth@toronto.ca

**311 Toronto**

Tel.: 311 • Call if you have questions about City services.  
TTY: 416-338-0889 • Email: 311@toronto.ca

**211 Central**

Tel.: 211 • Operates 24/7, with chat and text service Mon-Fri 7am - 9pm  
Offers assistance with accessing appropriate health, social, government, community and human services in over 180 languages.

**ProBonoOntario.org**

Tel.: 1 (855) 255-7256  
Mon-Fri, 9:30am - 12:00pm and 1:00pm - 4:00pm  
Pro Bono Ontario is a registered charity with a mandate to increase access to justice for low-income Ontarians with civil, non-family, legal problems.

**Legal Aid Ontario**

Tel.: 1 (800) 668-8258  
Residents can check the Legal Aid website or phone them to find their local legal clinic. Provides advice around tenant rights, worker rights, income assistance, and immigration.

**Stop the Spread Business Information Line**

Tel.: 1-(888) 444-3659  
Toll-free line to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province's emergency orders.

**HELPFUL WEBSITES**

**Toronto.ca/COVID19, Ontario.ca/COVID19 and Canada.ca/COVID19**

Frequently updated with all relevant City, Provincial and national information and resources.

**Toronto.ca/DonateTO**

The City of Toronto is working hard with its partners to support everyone impacted by COVID-19. Your gifts help us to enhance much needed services and supports, especially for the most vulnerable.

**Toronto.ca/ActiveTO**

ActiveTO is about making sure people have space to get around while respecting physical distancing. Initiatives include quiet streets, closing major roads for active transportation, and expanding the cycling network.

**Toronto.ca/COVID-19-Stay-Play-Learn-At-Home**

Free, high-quality recreation, active living, arts and culture activities for all ages to enjoy in the comfort of your home.

**Toronto.ca/HereToHelpTO**

The City of Toronto has partnered with community agencies to create this free service that connects residents to the various social service agencies, programs, and supports that are still available to children, youth and families experiencing violence or abuse.

**Toronto.ca/BusinessTO**

The BusinessTO Support Centre provides one-on-one virtual support to help businesses complete applications for Government of Canada COVID-19 funding programs while providing guidelines, tools and resources which can support businesses as they reopen.

**VolunteerToronto.ca**

Want to volunteer and help our city recover?  
Visit Volunteer Toronto to look for opportunities in your community.

**THANK YOU DAVENPORT HEROES**

On behalf of our entire community, we want to thank everyone who has gone above and beyond to support those in need in our community. Your inspiring effort has helped thousands of our neighbours stay safe, healthy and happy. Davenport truly is stronger for having amazing community partners like you!



See You Soon Toronto is taking the full proceeds for their merchandise to support local restaurants, buying their food at full price and donating it to essential workers.



Safehaven supporting Community Living Toronto, fitting their staff for masks!



Aangen – Aangen has been offering catering and cleaning service to keep our community moving!



Maria, a professional wedding seamstress puts her expertise to work to give a helping hand to neighbours by providing homemade face masks.



Famiglia Baldassarre, Bar Ape, Sugo, and Sovereign Café (The Marinara Boys) have teamed up to deliver their delicious food to essential workers throughout the pandemic.



Davenport Helps has been reaching out through posters and mail to ensure those without internet access know how to get the support they need!



Connie from Ontario Fashion Textile in Corso Italia donated fabric for up to 1,000 masks to be made for Michael Garron Hospital!



The Stop hasn't slowed providing meal kits to hundreds in need in our community.



West Neighbourhood House organizing a drive to create masks and deliver food to vulnerable people!



Marcia and Marisol from Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood Community Health Centre sewed 120 masks for people in our community!



Sistering paints new murals to brighten the day of their participants!