



Unionville Residents Association



MAY 2019

Inside This Issue

Markham Bylaws Session1
Operation of Traffic Signals in York Region2
Crime Prevention Session - March 20, 20192
Your Voice Markham3

May URA Meeting

We hope to see you all at our May meeting.

- Date: May 9th 2019 (Thursday)
Time : 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Venue: Pan Am Centre
Address: 16 Main Street Unionville
Event: Focus session on By-law Enforcement

Presentation by Michael Killingsworth,
Deputy City Clerk, Bylaw Enforcement, Licensing and
Regulatory Services, City of Markham



By-law 2018-135

Markham Bylaws Session

Here are some of the by-law related items which will
be reviewed during the meeting.

- Advertising signs on roadways
Illegal parking in front of schools
Garden waste bags left on driveway over winter
Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw
o Illegal Rooming Houses, Secondary Suites
and Short Term Accommodations
Illegal tree removal
Empty or rented house poor maintenance
Construction issues (work hours, dust, noise,
road surface dirt)
Adult massage parlours home business
Marijuana and beer in parks

Operation of Traffic Signals in York Region

URA representatives, Markham staff and Councillor McAlpine recently met with York Region traffic operations staff to learn more about how the Region operates traffic signals on its arterial roads. There is a common feeling among citizens that more could be done with signals to aid traffic flow, e.g. better synchronization, use of “green wave”.

We learned that the Region has a state-of-the-art signal control system. Virtually every arterial intersection in Markham can be monitored and signal light timing rapidly changed by remote action from a control room in Newmarket. The Region has also installed Bluetooth sensors on the Regional road network to measure travel times to identify areas that need to be addressed through short-term signal adjustments or other measures.

Despite this advanced technology, we were told that little can be done with traffic signals to improve traffic flow during peak hours. The roads are at capacity in at least two directions and other factors also come into play (pedestrians, cyclists, safety). The technology is helpful in responding to incidents and in helping traffic move better in off-peak hours.

York also uses the Bluetooth results in long-term planning, and is investing \$2B over the next 10 years in capital improvements to the arterial road network, including road widenings and gap filling.

To be continued.....



Crime Prevention Session - March 20, 2019

Break and Enters have been a hot topic in the community throughout the winter and a crime prevention session was hosted by Ward 3 Councillor Reid McAlpine on March 20, 2019 at Council Chambers. Per Community Liaison Constable Imtiaz Manjra, the number of incidents in Markham peaked in 2015 at 1,608 followed by 1,325 in 2016, 1,479 in 2017 and back up to 1,703 in 2018. Ward 3 Unionville followed the same pattern with 429 in 2015, 336 in 2016, 446 in 2017 but dropped to 419 in 2018. However the arrest rate is not as promising with 19% in 2015, 31% in 2016, 30% in 2017 and 24% in 2018.

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Markham B & E	1608	1325	1479	1703
Ward 3 B & E	429	336	446	419
Arrest Rate	19%	31%	30%	24%

A Break & Enter task force was created in 2017, equipped with business intelligence tools allowing York Region Police to allocate officers and detectives by priority area depending on the number, time and location of incidents. 360 police hours were allocated to Unionville from January 1st to March 20th. 2,100 police hours were allocated to the ravine area near Markham Road where the incident rate had peaked. There were also 400 police hours allocated for stopping cars looking for suspicious vehicles.

For Station 5, which covers Stouffville and Markham, 20 police officers are allocated to property crime with the main focus on Break & Enters headed by Sergeant Patrick Smyth #1083. In addition, there are 250 officers in Station 5 for other crimes.

Break & Enters are more than a nuisance and the best way to protect your home is to add a layer of

MAY 2019

security as a deterrent, such as alarms, fencing, hostile vegetation, good lighting, reinforced door, reinforced window, security camera, 2-way video camera, signage, or guard dog, making your home less vulnerable to forced entry.

Burglars often survey the neighbourhood to identify targets and often seek a time when nobody is home whether it is daytime or evening.

- The first thing they will do is to ring the doorbell;
- When someone answers the door, they will pretend they are selling something or providing service;
- If no one answers they will attempt to kick in the front door or break in through the back door;
- Once inside the house, they will go to the master bedroom where people often keep their valuables;
- Burglars will stay only 2-4 minutes whether there is an alarm or not.

Should you see any suspicious vehicle or person in your neighbourhood, look for the car model & color, license plate, person's physical appearance such as hair, height, color of clothing, and contact the YRP non-emergency number.

If you witness a break & enter is occurring, please call 911.

- If the crime is in action, YRP will immediately dispatch.
- If crime has occurred, YRP will prioritize to dispatch.



If you have any photos or videos, please send these to YRP and do not post on social media as that may cause the burglar not to use the same method, thus affecting YRP's ability to arrest the burglar.

Should you have further questions, please contact Constable Imtiaz Manjra #1520 or 1520@yrp.ca

Your Voice Markham

Markham has a new community engagement website where residents can get information about important projects as well as give feedback on the projects.

Please visit the site and provide your feedback on the plans for the Main Street Unionville Streetscape, Markham Centre, Active Transportation and Markham Gateway Master Plan amongst others.

<https://yourvoicemarkham.ca/>



[Mar 20, 2019 Markham Crime & Prevention Community Forum for Breaking and Enter Part 1 - YouTube](#)

Mar 20, 2019 Crime and Prevention Community Forum for Breaking and Enter Ward 3 Unionville - Hosted by Markham 3 Councillor Reid McAlpine Part 1 Tips to prevent B&E

www.youtube.com