

BHRA

**BUTTONWOOD HILL
RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

“Buttonwood Hill Residents Association (BHRA) brings the community together to advocate and stay informed about local events and issues impacting our residents, in order to maintain a safe and thriving neighbourhood.”

Happy New Year Neighbours,

*On behalf of the Board of **Buttonwood Hill Residents Association (BHRA)**, we hope you had a safe and peaceful holiday season and are looking forward to a new year filled with happiness, good health and many aspirations for 2022. We also hope that you were able to take a break from your busy schedules to enjoy some quality time and the simpler joys of life.*

***BHRA** has been busy with various concerns and issues in our neighbourhood and the following is a report on a few matters that may be of interest to you.*

Buttonwood Hill School (now operating as Holy Angels Catholic School)

You will have noticed that Buttonwood Hill School is open and operating as an elementary school for the children from Holy Angels Catholic School, while their new school is under construction. Once the new Holy Angels Catholic School is ready, those students will return to their new school and the existing building on the Buttonwood Hill site will be replaced by a ‘state of the art’ brand new Catholic elementary school.

Our TCDSB Trustee, Markus De Domenico, has advised us that the current goal is to have the new school on the Buttonwood site built and ready for occupancy by September, 2024, and that a public meeting will be held to update our community with respect to the plan and design of the new school, when available.

*In 2021, **BHRA** spoke with Councillor Stephen Holyday’s office on various occasions regarding traffic and speeding concerns we received and you may have noticed some new traffic signs both on Allanhurst and North Drive as a result. Because Buttonwood Hill School is now fully operational as an elementary school, the surrounding area has been designated as a ‘School Safety Zone’. Accordingly, many new measures have since taken effect, such as the speed limit, more police presence and additional signage.*

22 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC)

*In addition, **BHRA** represents our neighbourhood at the 22 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) and as such, we have brought forward your traffic concerns at those meetings as well.*

Update from Councillor Holyday’s office:

We recently wrote to Councillor Holyday’s office for an update on various matters of interest in our neighbourhood. Below are seven questions we posed to our Councillor and the answers we received:

- 1. BHRA has been in regular contact with your office concerning speeding and safety concerns on Allanhurst and North Drive and we would appreciate an update in this regard.**

Response: “Multiple requests regarding speeding and safety for both Allanhurst Dr and North Drive have been submitted to TPS Traffic Enforcement by our office in response to complaints received by residents.

In regards to Photo Radar, according to provincial regulations, automated speed enforcement may only be used within the school zone. A request has been submitted for this location to be added to the queue, since this year it was occupied as a temporary TCDSB school. There are currently two photo radar cameras available per City ward making their rotations based on the priority determined by supporting data, and it may be some time before one can come to Allanhurst.

Please note, that along with the new school to be constructed will come enhanced traffic calming measures under the City's Vision Zero Program and will include safety improvements such as enhanced pavement markings and signage, “Watch Your Speed” driver-feedback signs, police enforcement targeting safety concerns for school children and possibly permanent automated speed enforcement cameras in the future. It will also trigger a further reduction in the speed limit within the school zone.

In discussion with City staff, traffic calming measures such as speed bumps require; 1) A petition from 25% of the street households to commence the process, 2) A technical study by the City Traffic operations, 3) If technically warranted, a report to Community Council, 4) If approved, a formal poll of the residents, 5) If positive polling results, a final report to Community Council for approval.

However, it has been noted that Traffic Operations has not received a petition from local residents for Allanhurst Drive or North Drive.”

2. Status re development at 4000 Eglinton Avenue West (formerly Plant World), including plans for Section 37 proceeds, as well as the additional Public Art Plan.

Response: “In 2020, the owner agreed to implement the public art on site and entered into a Section 37 Agreement registered for a contribution total of up to \$800,000.00.

At the November 9, 2021 City Council meeting a report relating to the public art plan and implementation framework was adopted. The developer has retained a public art consultant that will begin the process of establishing a committee to select an artist and design. Link to report: [4000 Eglinton Avenue West - Public Art Plan \(toronto.ca\)](#).

Below is a timeline provided by the public art consultant:

Artist Competition Q1 – Q3 2022

Artist Selection Q4 2022

Artist Under Contract Q1 – Q2 2023

Final Design Approval Q3 – Q4 – 2023

Fabrication of Art Q1 2024 – Q1 2025

Installation Sept 2025 – July 2026.

The consultant's report can be viewed at: [4000 Eglinton Ave W Public Art Plan \(toronto.ca\)](#)”.

3. Current plans for Buttonwood Hill School development (now operating as Holy Angels Catholic School) and Buttonwood Park.

Response: “Holy Angels Catholic School students have temporarily relocated to the former Buttonwood Hill PS site for the 2021 - 2022 school year. It is anticipated they will remain there until their new building is completed in late 2022. Construction (at the Holy Angels site) is expected to start late fall 2021 with an occupancy date of January 3, 2023.”

4. Update on the current plans and status regarding the Eglinton Crosstown LRT.

Response: “Crews are continuing construction activities at the launch shaft work zone at Renforth in preparation for the arrival of the tunnel boring machines in early 2022. A night shift has been added to help facilitate this work. Overnight work will continue until approximately March 2022. Some lane restrictions and detours will be required during this work. Metrolinx has distributed approximately 2000 notices to properties within a 1km radius around Renforth.

Preliminary design work continues between Martin Grove Rd. and Scarlett Rd., as well as at planned station locations along the route. Metrolinx hosted a public information meeting on Wednesday, December 8th. For more information, visit: <https://www.metrolinxengage.com/en/ECWE-live-meetings>.”

5. Status re development at Humbertown Plaza.

“Construction of phase 1 is underway. To keep residents informed during construction the developer has established a Construction Liaison Committee.”

6. Update on status re Richview Plaza Development; Shannex Development and Silver Creek Park.

Richview Plaza: 250 Wincott Dr/4620 Eglinton Av. W.

Response: “After an extensive consultation process this development application was adopted with amendments at the July 2021 session of City Council. The amended plan reduces the heights on two of the three buildings by six metres or two stories with the third building limited to a height of 43m. The existing retail plaza is to remain and a 8.6 m wide addition is proposed at the east end of the building. The site will also contain a total of 1063 parking spaces and a 1700m² public park with a 659m² privately-owned publicly-accessible open space abutting the public park.”

Silver Creek Park

Response: “After two stakeholder meetings with local community groups and an on-line survey, Silver Creek Park is slated to receive improvements in the coming months. These improvements include an extended walkway circuit, new seating areas, shade areas, play and fitness equipment.

The design of the project is in process with construction planned for 2022. Costs for this project are partially funded through section 37 proceeds from the Shannex development.

See: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/construction-new-facilities/improvements-expansion-redevelopment/silver-creek-park-improvements/>.”

7. We have noticed a number of trees being cut down partially along Royal York Road and are concerned as to the reason for this.

Response: “As part of the Council-approved 2021 Capital Works Program, the City of Toronto is in the process of replacing the culvert at Royal York Road over the Humber River Tributary. This work is ensure that the culvert meets current standards and remains safe for vehicles and pedestrians.

Due to the nature of the project and to provide access to the site, the City has removed trees and shrubs within the ravine directly east and west of Royal York Road. All trees and shrubs removed will be replaced when construction is completed and restoration work is underway. Construction is expected to be completed in Summer, 2023.”

BHRA welcomes your comments and feedback regarding this Newsletter or any other matter you wish to discuss at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact us by email at:

buttonwoodhillresidents@gmail.com or through our website at www.buttonwoodhillresidents.com.

We are seeking new members and volunteers to join our current BHRA Board. If you are interested in helping us keep our neighbourhood safe and vibrant, we would be happy to discuss with you at your convenience.

Please feel free to share this newsletter with your neighbours and friends to help us build a strong and engaged community.

*May we take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of **BHRA** and to wish you all a healthy and Happy New Year!*

Take care, stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all soon.

Kind regards,

Your neighbours,

Christina Manulak, Michael Tkach and Skye Siriunas-Gallelo

The Board of Buttonwood Hill Residents Association

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