### THE POCKET AND BLAKE-JONES

#### **SPRING 2023 UPDATE**



## The Pocket Change Project

The Pocket Change Project came together a few years ago to inform, inspire and activate the neighbourhood to reduce their

collective carbon footprint. Their goal is to help make retrofitting homes less expensive, easier and more accessible for the entire neighbourhood in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I also recently moved a motion to make the city's Home Energy Loan Program more accessible and remove barriers for applicants.

You can learn more about the Pocket Change Project at www.thepocket.ca.



I successfully moved a motion to fund Blake Public School's new playground and sports field, including a new basketball court.

It was wonderful we could make this happen for students and the community. A special thank you to Fieldgate Homes for their generous contribution to this community project.



Paula and former VP Ruth Martin at an event announcing funding for new basketball courts at Blake Street Public School.



#### **Subcommittee on Ontario Line Construction**

I joined with my colleagues Councillors Ausma Malik and Chris Moise to start the Subcommittee on Metrolinx's Ontario Line Construction.

This comes in response to concerns from residents and community stakeholders who expressed frustration with the lack of public engagement and communication from Metrolinx about the impacts of their construction on traffic, trees, parks and businesses as they roll out this important new transit infrastructure.



Paula with volunteers dropping off donations to the Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre Foodbank.

## Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

Eastview Neighbourhood Community Centre (ENCC) celebrated its 50th anniversary in September with a very successful Fall Fun Fest and Open House.

Over 400 local residents, agency partners and volunteers helped ENCC celebrate 50 years of serving Blake-Jones, the Pocket and other nearby East Toronto communities in its first full, in-person event since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

## The Pocket Electric Vehicle Charging Update

The latest expansion of the on-street EV charging program rolled out late last year. I moved a motion to allocate more money in this year's budget for the installation of 'pedestal' style chargers, which allows for more streets to receive on-street electric charging infrastructure.

Stay tuned for the next round of installations in 2023. You can also learn more at toronto. ca/electric-vehicles.



## Wonscotanach Park is a Go Thanks to Community Action

Thanks to the advocacy of dedicated community members, Metrolinx announced that the GO Train Layover facility initially planned for the Don Valley would be relocated. The city will now begin work on the long awaited Wonscotanach Park.

This new park will be a companion piece to the many great parks along the Don River, including the soon to be completed parks in the Port Lands, Corktown Common and Riverdale Park East and West.

#### **Councillor Paula Fletcher**

## THE POCKET AND BLAKE-JONES SPRING 2023 UPDATE

#### **FREE COMPOST**

# COUNCILLOR Paula Fletcher's COMPOST DAYS

Compost will be dropped off early — be sure to bring your own shovel and container.

- PHIN PARK Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 7:00 a.m.
- MONARCH PARK Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 8:00 a.m.
- KEMPTON HOWARD PARK Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 9:00 a.m.
- RIVERDALE PARK Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 11:00 a.m.
- GREENWOOD PARK Sunday, April 23rd, 2023 7:00 a.m.
- WILKINSON PUBLIC SCHOOL Sunday, April 23rd, 2023 8:00 a.m.
- WITHROW PARK Saturday, June 3rd, 2023 7:00 a.m.
- EAST YORK CIVIC CENTRE Tuesday, June 20th, 2023 9:00 a.m.

For information visit: paulafletcher.ca /compost\_days\_2023





SAVE THE DATE

Saturday May 20th, 2023 10:00A.M. -TO- 2:00P.M.

#### **By-Election for Mayor**

The mayoral by-election is scheduled for June 26th, 2023. Visit www.toronto.ca/elections to learn more.



Paula and School Trustee Sara Ehrhardt.

#### **Build the Park**

Metrolinx is relocating its planned GO Train Layover in the Don Valley to an alternative site, avoiding permanent ecological impacts to one of the great natural river valleys in our city. Thank you to the many community members for their tireless advocacy. This wouldn't have happened without you.



#### Danforth Church to be Turned Into Affordable Seniors' Housing

The Danforth Baptist
Church at Bowden Street
and Danforth Avenue will
be transformed into 50 new
affordable homes for
seniors by Woodgreen
Community Services. It's
the first major development
on Danforth Avenue after
the adoption of the
Danforth Planning and
Heritage Study. I'm proud to
support this initiative and
thank everyone involved.

Learn more about this project at woodgreen.org/welcome-to-60-bowden-st.



#### **Celebrating Lunar New Year**

I celebrated the Lunar New Year with the community, East Chinese Chamber of Commerce and students from Riverdale C.I. Happy Year of the Rabbit.

## Community Crisis Service Pilot is Successful

The Community Crisis
Service (TCCS) Launched
in early 2022, the
Community Crisis Service
(TCCS) delivers alternative,
community-led responses to mental
health calls and wellness checks instead
of the police. Program data shows
TCCS is successfully diverting 78 per
cent of the calls made to the police
about people in crisis and providing
referrals to community resources and
provide other support services to those
experiencing mental health crises.

Visit toronto.ca/toronto-community-crisis-service for more details.



Paula with Riverdale C.I. students during their protest of Bill 23.

#### Standing Up Against Bill 23

The province's Bill 23 allows for development on the Greenbelt, two million acres of protected land that's critical to our environment. It could also prevent the city from requiring developers to replace affordable housing units in new developments. This will accelerate the loss of affordable housing, drive up rents and force people out of Toronto or into our overloaded shelter system.

#### **Councillor Paula Fletcher**