



Councillor Shawn Lewis

Ward 2

2021 NEWSLETTER

DEAR NEIGHBOURS,

After the tough 2020 year that changed everything with COVID, I know 2021 is not the “recovery year” we all wanted and hoped for. However, the arrival of vaccines, the reopening—with some restrictions still in place—of most of the economy, schools, and more while keeping COVID case counts manageable should give us all reason to be hopeful as 2022 approaches.

Another reason to be hopeful is we are finally approaching the end of the East Lions Community Centre construction fiasco.

From bad materials, to labour issues, to workmanship deficiencies that required work to be redone, it has been one frustration after another, culminating in the bonding company bringing in a new general contractor to finish the job. I've visited the site regularly and received bi-weekly updates since the new contractor has taken over and know they've been working hard to get this done.

I'm pleased to be able to share that we are planning for the East Lions Community Centre to OPEN in DECEMBER 2021!

We've also been able to make headway on a number of Ward 2 needs this year, from road and sewer renewals to new playgrounds in Kiwanis and Nelson Park, and finally gained Council approval for a Community Improvement Plan for the Argyle Business Improvement Association commercial corridor along Dundas.

And of course across the city council continues to work on a number of items, the most important of which is the affordable housing and homelessness crisis we are experiencing, continuing to deal with the fallout and recovery from COVID-19 and more.

As always, I hope you will feel welcome to be in touch on the municipal issues and concerns that matter to you, and I will keep working my hardest to get results for our neighbourhood!

Sincerely,



IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE IN WARD 2

- ◆ For over 40 years the residents of Calgary St. have been waiting, and this year they finally received a complete road build from sewer and water mains up to new curbs, gutters and fresh pavement.
- ◆ Buchan Rd. received a sidewalk this year, finally creating a safe pedestrian space between Bonaventure to Admiral Dr. which was achieved through road narrowing rather than tree removal.
- ◆ Watermains were relined around Whitehall and Atkinson, an important step needed before we can pursue a rebuild of Whitehall from Atkinson to Vancouver.
- ◆ Pottersburg Creek rehabilitation in Kiwanis Park was done, although it required some tree removals, it was necessary to tackle shore erosion and reduce the risk to the creek from sanitary sewer exposure.



PARK & PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

- ◆ A new naturalize playground structure, a Neighbourhood Decision Making idea, was installed in Kiwanis Park south of Trafalgar creating a new play space for families.
- ◆ Nelson Park aging playground structure was removed and replaced with a new play structure, and an accessibly swing was added to the swingset area.
- ◆ Working with the Home & School Association and securing a generous donation from a local business, students at Bonaventure Meadows Public School returned to a new playground in the school yard in September.

Deputy Mayor Josh Morgan came out to the Argyle area to help me open the new playground, giving me a push on the new swing in Kiwanis Park playground while his children McKenna, Ainsley and Max enjoyed the climbers.

NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

For the first time in many years, significant new housing developments are underway in the east end as people are seeing us as a neighbourhood to call home.

- ◆ Zerrin Place on Clarke Rd. opened, with 65 new units. This project includes 37 affordable units (as low as \$580 monthly) up to full market two bedroom units.
- ◆ Construction has begun on a new road, Marconi Court, which will create 30 new single family homes.
- ◆ Construction is underway on Tartan Dr. with 15 new condos being built.



Your questions and comments are always welcome, connect with me at:



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