EPRA NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



New Traffic Lights on Duplex

The new traffic lights at Orchard View and Montgomery are now working. They were installed to improve walkers' safety and create smoother traffic flow. To change the light to cross Duplex, you must press the button. The lights may take getting used to so please exercise caution when crossing these intersections



Protect Yourself Against Break-ins

A recent news alert warned that our area (monitored by 53 Division) is experiencing break-ins while people are at home. Money and quickly accessed items are being stolen. Police are cautioning people to make sure their doors are locked. If you see something suspicious call CrimeStoppers at 416-222-8477.

The Future of Helendale and Yonge

Ever since construction began at the corner of Helendale and Yonge, EPRA has dreamed of keeping the street's east end closed to cars permanently as the site of a future farmer's market, public art space, and a splendid pedestrian connector to the square at Station K. Our councillor, Mike Colle supports this plan and is working to move this initiative forward through City Council.



Update: Bus Lands Development at Corner of Yonge and Eglinton

Plans are emerging. Oxford Properties, the owner of Yorkdale and the Ernst and Yonge tower near City Hall, has reached out to local residents and businesses, with EPRA taking part. Last week the developer laid out its ideas:

The large open space covers half the site with two hectares (five acres) of park and plaza. The developer promises indoor spaces for public use and aims to replace all office capacity lost when

the existing buildings on Yonge come down. In exchange, expect five very tall towers. This is a huge project, with many questions still to resolve. Day care? A public school? A performance space? Affordable, family-friendly housing? Councillor Josh Matlow is sponsoring a working group that EPRA and other local RAs have signed on to. You will also be invited into this important discussion. Watch for public meetings and have your say.

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Roehampton Shelter Update

Our EPRA delegate to the Community Liaison Committee for the Roehampton Shelter has reported they are looking for a new name that is more supportive of the people who live there. We were also informed the shelter is currently placing around four residents a month into more permanent housing. To support training for paid work, the Shelter has also partnered with George Brown College and hopes to find funds for scholarships. Further, Toronto Public Health aims at installing an overdose prevention unit on-site but no safe injection site is planned.

The Shelter is looking for donations of winter clothes, boots, gift cards, board games (that can be sanitized), combs, brushes and new toiletries. They are also accepting donations of small electronic devices like phones and tablets.

If you can help, call the shelter at 437-247-2287 to arrange a drop off. For more information about donations, you can contact Ertha Downey at the City of Toronto at ertha.downey@toronto.ca

Please Dispose Appropriately

Discarded masks (ugh!), those used doggy bags (ugh again!). We see too much litter on the sidewalk and with the pandemic, we neighbours cannot pick up after one another. So, more than ever, we all must do the right thing, from the start: respect the ground beneath our feet and those who tread on it by finding and using an appropriate garbage bin (your own or public – not a neighbour's).



The Eglinton Park Residents Association (EPRA) was formed in 2008 in response to the many developments at Yonge and Eglinton. Our main role is to be engaged with decisions that affect this area so that local residents have a voice. Join us to stay in touch with what affects our neighbourhood and bring your ideas to the table.



