

**Champlain Park Community Association
Planning and Zoning Committee Report to the AGM
February 1, 2022**

Before presenting the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Report, I wish to acknowledge the major contributions made by Amy Steele Kempster, who, for many, many years, was a Planning and Zoning icon, an Environmentalist and a strong advocate for Champlain Park. We are grateful for all that she did for us and extend condolences to her family.

More information can be found here: <https://champlainpark.org/category/community-news/development/amys-corner/>

P&Z Report, February 1, 2022

I am including a number of links in this report, which would be more than two hours long if I didn't! I recommend that everyone has a look at what I'm linking to, when you have some time to spare. All of it will be very important as we move forward on developing a new zoning bylaw to match the new Official Plan. Our intent will be to maintain as much as possible the things that have made Champlain Park an inclusive, green neighbourhood, and a great place to live.

Planning and Zoning (P&Z): The Official Plan

City Planning encompasses a very wide field of interlinked issues:

- The City has submitted its proposed new Official Plan (OP) to the Province, for final review;
- Zoning is the means by which the OP Policies will be implemented;
- When the new OP is approved, CPCA P&Z will be working with the City, organisations and communities from across Ottawa on the new Zoning Rules;

During the past year, Champlain Park's *Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committee* has been working closely with the following groups, on all of these interlinked issues, in an effort to improve the proposed Official Plan.

The **People's Official Plan (POP)** <https://www.ottawaclimatesolutions.net/> Daniel Buckles is one of the key people responsible for creating the POP, with the Greenspace Alliance and Ecology Ottawa. The POP included representatives from FCA, CAFES and many other associations.

- Letter to Minister Clark re: the Draft Official Plan: The Future We Want / The Future We're Getting": <https://www.ottawaclimatesolutions.net/post/the-province-can-change-ottawa-s-official-plan>

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The **Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA)**: <http://fca-fac.ca/> Lynne and I attend many FCA P&Z committee meetings. Roland is the CPCA representative to the FCA and represented the FCA in meetings with the POP, CAFES and Walkable Ottawa.

- City presentation on what will underlie the new Zoning Bylaw: <http://fca-fac.ca/2021/12/dialogue-for-new-zoning-by-law-begins/>
- Letter to Minister Clarke re: the Draft Official Plan: <http://fca-fac.ca/2021/11/city-of-ottawa-official-plan/>

Ecology Ottawa (EO): <https://www.ecologyottawa.ca/>

- Provides residents with the information and tools needed to understand local environmental issues and promote environmental leadership at all levels impacting the City of Ottawa.
- One of the projects is the *Breathe Easy Campaign*: <https://www.ecologyottawa.ca/breatheeasy>
- Last spring I borrowed one of the Breathe Easy air quality monitors. The results were an eye-opener. Most days showed good air quality. The impact of the diesel buses in the Transitway and the intersection at Island Park Drive on my block's air quality was an eye-opener, however. On some days it was unacceptable. Truck traffic is the biggest contributor to air pollution in our communities. Air quality declines near construction projects as well.

Community Associations for Environmental Sustainability (CAFES): <https://cafesottawa.ca/>

- CAFES acts as a network between community associations and citizens who are working to promote environmental sustainability in our city and our neighbourhoods, sharing info on concerns, community events, best practices and research.
- *CAFES Tree Canopy Regeneration Initiative*: <https://cafesottawa.ca/2021-2022-neighbourhood-canopy-regeneration-project/>
- Champlain Park is participating in the *CAFES Tree Regeneration Project*. We have a new website at: <https://champlainpark.org/ticp/ticp-home/#ticptop>
- Check out the information on the three posters! This is why we must ensure that any new zoning bylaw helps us retain the trees that we have, retain space to add more, and plant more. Champlain Park is at 31 % canopy and still dropping, due to infill development. Good City planning should include ensuring a 40% tree canopy cover by neighbourhood.

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Walkable Ottawa: <https://www.walkableottawa.ca/>

- Walkable Ottawa is led by local architect Rosaline Hill. The group aims to develop concrete solutions and a clear vision to transition Ottawa's neighbourhoods to more walkable communities.
- Walkable Ottawa's comments on the new Draft Official Plan are here: <https://www.walkableottawa.ca/taking-action>

CPCA Submission:

- Our presentation to Planning Committee on the Official Plan accompanies this summary document.
- Slides 2, 3 and 4 contain foundational information for us moving forward;
- More key information is in the NCC's *Tree Canopy Assessment: Canada's Capital Region*, created in collaboration with Ottawa and Gatineau. The interactive map and analysis reference 2017 data. <https://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/our-plans/tree-canopy-assessment-canada-capital-region> Ottawa's tree canopy cover, including Champlain Park's, has declined since then.

Planning and Zoning: Other Projects

Tunney's Pasture Master Plan

- Since 2012, Planning and Zoning has been involved every step of the way in the Tunney's Pasture redevelopment plan. During most of this time, little information has been made available;
- We have kept detailed files and continued to glean information whenever possible;
- During this past year CPCA, Wellington Village, Hintonburg and Mechanicsville joined to form Neighbour for Tunney's: <http://www.neighboursfortunneys.ca/>
- Roland will provide more details on the most recent developments. This is an ongoing project that has started to gain momentum.

Kitchissippi 9 (K9)

- These are regularly scheduled Ward meetings where Kitchissippi CAs share news, issues of common concern and provide inter CA support.
- Roland developed this group, which he also coordinates.
- Jeff is a regular participant.

Champlain Park redevelopment applications

- Whatever else is going on, P&Z carries on monitoring redevelopment in the community, liaising with developers as early as possible and to the extent possible.

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- Our work on this file often is invisible. We are often successful in pointing out how Applicants can modify their proposals, to make them fit in better with the neighbourhood;
- In all cases, we must adhere to Official Plan Policies and the Zoning Bylaws;
- We attend all Committee of Adjustment (CofA) hearings for our neighbourhood. The Committee knows and respects our work.
- We sometimes are called upon to advise on development applications in other neighbourhoods.

Two Examples of Projects Brought to a Successful Conclusion

- Thanks to Roland, Jeff and Tom for never giving up on the effort to have a safe pedestrian crossing installed at Clearview and Island Park Drive.
- Thanks to Jeff and Tom for ensuring that we soon will have the safer crossing at Scott and Carleton that we have needed in this neighbourhood for a long time. P&Z helped to keep the issue alive at public meetings and wrote a justification for it.

Finally, I recommend that all residents go to the **Engage Ottawa** website and take the opportunity to participate in the Public Consultations. <https://engage.ottawa.ca/>

- The policies being developed and the projects underway will have a direct impact on you. City Staff need your positive engagement and collaboration;
- This is your neighbourhood. You understand its needs better than anyone else.
- And, you can get your feet wet right away. “Your Mission, should you choose to accept it” is to respond to the *Transportation Master Plan*. It’s open for comments and suggestions right now;
- The [online engagement tool\(External link\)](#) is even fun to use. Clicking on it takes you directly into an interactive map.
 - If you want to signal support for a proposed sidewalk on Pontiac, click the page for pedestrian candidate projects, zoom to Pontiac and follow the instructions.
 - And, while you’re at it, scroll over to the Slidell St. Pathway linking Mechanicsville to the Parkway. There should have been a sidewalk here eons ago! We can help out our neighbours just by clicking that it’s important to put one there.