

## **TTC Committee of the Pocket Community Association Meeting 5 May 2015 at the home of Diane & Don Smith**

**Present:** Gilles Durot, Diane Smith, Jeff Otto, Susan McMurray (Chair) and Llana Nakonechny

**Regrets:** Steve Cutting

- 1. Approved Remediation:** Diane has been emailing Diego Sinagoga and will continue to do so by phone contact with an enquiry about the time line for implementation of the remediations that TTC and PCA have agreed.
- 2. Off-Leash Dogs in Oakvale Green:** A concern has been sent to the TTC Committee about noisy off-leash dogs in Oakvale Green, including possible impact on children who are part of the nearby Creative Play School. This is the first concern that the committee has received. Committee members will put up notices in the greenspace asking dog handlers to be considerate to others at all times, including cleaning up after their pets. Similar messages will be posted on Facebook.

The TTC Committee has checked with the organizers of the Creative Play School, whose staff and children use the north end of the greenspace; they have no concerns, and appreciate the dog activity. It was also noted that lots of dogs and humans in the greenspace serve to make the area less attractive to persons using drugs or involved in anti-social activities.

- 3. Survey Results:** 124 replies to the PCA-TTC Oakvale Green Space Survey were received. Respondents get information about neighbourhood issues and events through numerous channels including posters on Hydro poles, notice board in Phin Park, Facebook notes, PCA website, PCA email distribution to Members etc. This suggests that PCA's communications are most likely to be most useful if we use several distribution media. Results from the survey were:
  - **Notice Board?** Low priority at this time.
  - **Bench at north end of greenspace?** Low priority.
  - **Garbage can?** Many respondents were in favour of another garbage can, with mild preference leaning towards locating it near Queen Victoria Street. Consultation with TTC would help, particularly regarding emptying the contents, and ensuring its location is not near to homes. The TTC Committee will continue to work on this issue.
  - **Lighting:** Lowest priority. Only one in five respondents would welcome more lighting for safety purposes. It was noted that Oakvale Green is a dawn to dusk facility. If the TTC is asked to consider more lighting, lights should be designed so they direct light downwards, not into windows of the adjoining homes.

- **Change the name of the west side of Oakvale Green?** No appetite to change the name at this time.
- **Additional Comments:** Dogs are off-putting for some religious and cultural groups. A sign describing the underground river in the low area could be a useful item of public education. Same in Phin Park. A joint greenspace cleanup between TTC and PCA would be welcome.

**4. TTC Downtown Relief Line:** As the PCA representative, Gilles has attended two public consultation meetings and one Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG) meeting. The minutes of the first meeting can be found at: <http://reliefline.ca/pages/sag1-summary> The DRL project at this point in time has no final plan, no funding, no political confirmation and many other unknowns. Its terminus points downtown and at the eastern terminus on the TTC Danforth line and all stations in between are not yet defined. It appeared that many attendees support Pape as the terminus.

One eastern terminus point favoured by some attendees would require extensive construction on Jones Avenue. From the minutes, “There was concern that a connection at Jones Avenue would cut off the entire Pocket neighbourhood during construction.” PCA would share this concern since entrance to most homes in the Pocket is only via Jones Avenue. The hope of the consultation committee is that DRL planning will be complete by the end of 2015. PCA will keep Members informed about progress in the PCA website.

Minutes prepared on 8 May 2015 by PCA Secretary, Don Smith.