

## Housing

City Housing Hamilton has made significant strides. I'm proud to be a member of the Board of Directors and have learned so much from the experience. I've been so impressed by tenant engagement, I will soon be welcoming tenant members to a new Safety and Security subcommittee later this year.

### SOME OF CHH'S RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Integrated pest control with Good Shepherd Works
- Hired 15 superintendents and opened several site offices
- Did 2,000 unit inspections and invested \$20,000,000 in needed repairs
- 13 community gardens and 4 playgrounds
- Initiated a Wellness Program at First Place and other seniors buildings

## Ward 2 Kids News

Many of you know I have a long history with working with local youth-at-risk. I am happy to report this work continues to bring together many of our children and neighbours. Here are some of my most recent kids' initiatives:

We worked with the students at Queen Victoria School to create a new logo to be embedded in the new Corktown Park entrance. At a revived Eastwood Arena, we wrapped up a 10-week "Skate the Dream" program, making hockey accessible to inner-city kids. Over 100 kids learned the game from volunteers and a Stanley Cup champ. Also, I hope to be officially announcing a free summer day camp in Ward 2 on JasonFarr.com. Stay tuned!

### BIAs

- Downtown Hamilton BIA:**  
www.downtownhamilton.org.
- International Village BIA:**  
hamiltoninternationalvillage.com

## Roadwork

Roadwork. Never fun, but it's gotta be done. We went a long way this past year in improving the aging infrastructure in our Downtown. As we continue to face the growing challenge of managing our city streets with limited resources, our Road Operations & Maintenance Department restructured to meet the ongoing demands and needs of Ward 2, with the goals of reducing response times, improving the quality of work and ensuring public safety.

### A FEW RECENT INROADS

- Water main and sewer improvements in the King William-Hughson-Rebecca Sts. reconstruction, featuring a stamped concrete roadway
- Improved streetscaping for pedestrians on York Blvd. from Bay to James Sts.
- Road, water main and sewer reconstruction on Wellington St.
- Repaving on Barton, Markland, James, Main & John Sts.
- Road improvements on Wellington St. N. from Ferrie to Barton Sts.
- Construction started at Burlington and Wellington (RTC), to be followed by repaving of Burlington St. (from Ferguson to Victoria Sts.). Repaving of Wellington St. from Burlington to Ferrie Sts. (to be completed by November)
- Caroline St. S. (from King to Main Sts.) to be converted to a 2-way street this year

# THE WARD 2 WORD

## CITY OF HAMILTON

Dear Friends,

As your Ward 2 Councillor, I could not be prouder to be representing you during this time of positive transformation in our Downtown. What a year it was in 2011, and early into 2012 there are no signs of a slow-down. Together, we have embarked upon a remarkable journey of progress and good fun.

As part of a five-phase, \$140,000,000 downtown development plan, construction of the Staybridge Suites Hotel is nearing completion and the transformation of the Federal Building (where the Dr. Holbrook relief sculptures were preserved) is under way. We are in phase two of the three-phase City Square condominium project on the former Thistle Club site in Durand. In Central, the Murray Street School W Lofts are coming along and the OMB has made a decision on the West Harbour—one that could see as many as 600 new residential units in our core and some exceptional commercial opportunities as well. We recently heard about plans for the Royal Connaught Hotel, part of a three-phase development starting with the refurbishing of the King Street façade. That goes well with the ongoing restoration of Treble Hall just around the corner on John Street. And don't forget the announcement of the new \$80,000,000 McMaster Downtown Medical Campus: it's a go!

The James Street North Art Crawl continues to grow in popularity and the award-winning Supercrawl is slated to make this the biggest September yet. Open Streets Hamilton successfully brings James North back to the people twice a year (this year's dates: June 24 and September 23). It is no surprise major Canadian events and festivals come calling, like the Canadian Country Music Award Fan Fest.

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Councillor Jason Farr

### Keep in touch!

Main Office:  
City Hall - 71 Main St. W  
(second floor)  
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5  
Phone: 905.546.2711  
Fax: 905.546.2535  
Email: jason.farr@hamilton.ca  
Web: JasonFarr.com  
Twitter: @Councillor\_Farr

Want more updates about what's going on in your community? Sign up for Councillor Farr's **Ward 2 Word eNewsletter** at JasonFarr.com and we'll keep you posted!

# DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT

What's developing in your Downtown? The Lister Block opens on Friday, April 13th and progress continues on the restoration of Treble Hall on John Street. It's full swing for the adaptable reuse of the Murray Street School W Lofts by Core Urban. Job creation continues to climb in the Downtown, too. In 2011, we added 300 jobs in the creative sector alone, including 100 new jobs at the new Pipeline Animation Studios. Our Economic Development Department tells us all signs point to maintained momentum!

## DOWNTOWN HIGHLIGHTS IN THE HEADLINES

- \* Fifty new businesses in the Downtown Core and climbing
- \* Supercrawl slated to surpass the 2011 attendance of 50,000
- \* Downtown Medical Campus across from City Hall ready for 2014
- \* The new MacNab Street Transit Terminal bustles with buses
- \* National architectural awards won for remodelled Farmers Market and Central Library
- \* The Staybridge Suites Hotel on Caroline St. on time for summer opening
- \* Transformation of Federal Building under way
- \* City Square Condominiums, Tower One boasts a record sellout
- \* City Square Tower Two units on sale now. Live the City Life!

*\*\*If you are located within downtown Hamilton and want to know if you are eligible for any financial incentive programs, please contact Hazel Milsome, Coordinator of Urban Renewal Incentives, at 905-546-2424, ext. 2755 or hazel.milsome@hamilton.ca.*

## Corktown

corktownna.com

- Ferguson Water Pumping Station work concludes in third quarter, 2012
- Corktown Park enhancements to follow completion of pumping station
- Streetlight on John at Augusta St.

## North End

northendneighbours.blogspot.com

- 2 new restaurants coming this summer to the Discovery Centre on the waterfront
- Working with the neighbourhood association to bring a leash-free zone for your dogs
- Hamilton Bulldogs' Skate to Dream 3-on-3 hockey league helps revive Eastwood Arena with affordable hockey for kids aged 6 to 10. Next season will be even bigger!

### Need a Blue Box or a Rain Barrel?

Need a new or replacement blue box? Contact our office and we will deliver it to your home free of charge. Also, the Public Works Department will be hosting a one-day Rain Barrel Sale on May 5, 2012 at Mohawk College. The cost is around \$40 and will not only help conserve our most precious natural resource, but save money on your water bill!

## Durand

durandna.com

- Bike lanes coming to Herkimer St. & Charlton Ave.
- Stabilization of St Mark's Church
- Transportation demand management coming to Queen St.

## Stinson

stinsoncommunity.ca

- Stinson community becomes the first in city to take part in Neighbourhood Development Action Plan
- Bike lanes on Stinson St.
- Stinson School Condominium project well under way

## Central

centralneighbours.ca

- A renewed Central Neighbourhood Association
- OMB decision is in on West Harbour lands
- W Lofts under construction on Murray St.

## Beasley

ourbeasley.com

- Historic signing of the Beasley Neighbourhood Charter
- Beasley now part of an expanded Downtown Community Improvement Plan (CIP)
- Demolition & clean-up of 245 Catharine North property

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Thanks to Kathy Drewitt and the Downtown BIA, the Downtown Promenade in beautiful Gore Park brings the heart of our city to life on weekday afternoons and the Gore will be closed to cars from James to Hughson most of this summer. Call it an experiment in pedestrianization. In the International Village, Night in the Village is back in May and will happen on the first Friday of every month through to the December holiday season.

There has been considerable road and infrastructure improvements in our ward of late. From the installation of playgrounds and expanding our bike lanes network to the near-completed Ferguson Pumping Station and the establishment of a City of Hamilton Neighbourhood Development Initiative, the future looks bright for residents of Ward 2.

To you, the residents and business owners of Ward 2, I offer my congratulations on your passion and engagement for the betterment of our city. I always appreciate your comments (and your criticisms) because together we will make Hamilton, and Ward 2, truly "the best place to raise a child."

Together Aspire – Together Achieve.

Sincerely,

