



The Durand Neighbourhood is the inner city district bounded by Main Street West, James Street South, the Escarpment and Queen Street South. It is home to approximately 12,000 Hamiltonians. The Durand Neighbourhood Association (DNA) was established in 1972 as a politically independent community organization and chartered as a not-for-profit Provincial Corporation. It is the DNA's vision to be the model downtown community that protects heritage while creating a diverse, sustainable and vibrant future. Please contact us at any time with questions, comments or concerns about the neighbourhood or if you are interested in volunteering, joining or renewing your membership.

**Contact Information: Durand Neighbourhood Association**  
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## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

**BY: CHRISTOPHER REDMOND**

Spring has sprung once again in the Durand neighbourhood. It won't be long until the flowers are in bloom and children playing in the park. Our beautiful neighbourhood, with all of its heritage and lovely gardens really comes alive in the spring and summer months.

It was a busy winter in the neighbourhood this year. A big thank you to everyone involved in the ice rink in Durand Park. It was great to see so many families and neighbours out enjoying the park in the colder months. We also scored a huge victory in the ongoing saga of Television City. City staff recommended that council reject the rezoning application arguing that the 40 and 30 storey towers would not fit with the surrounding neighbourhood. The developer has already appealed the decision to the OMB, so the Television City saga will continue for the foreseeable future.

We also have a number of projects coming up this spring and summer. In particular, the neighbourhood will see many of the Plan Local projects that were voted on in 2016 finally materialize around the neighbourhood. In particular, we will be getting some new crosswalks and other traffic calming measures. There will also be another round of Plan Local projects to vote on this summer. This time around the theme will be beautifying Ward 2.

Also in this issue you can find updates on The Connolly and St. Mark's and read about the community coming out to demand drivers slow down on Queen.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement in the neighbourhood. Please do not hesitate to email me at: [president@durandna.com](mailto:president@durandna.com) if you have any questions, concerns or ideas for making the neighbourhood a better place.

# COUNCILOR'S REMARKS

**BY: JASON FARR**

Hello Duranders and thank you DNA for the opportunity to update residents in Historic Durand on one issue that I may safely say in retrospect has received the most community input since we converted Duke and Bold (which has reduced both speeds and traffic content by the way).

Television City and their proposal for one 40 and another 30 storey tower on the current CHCH TV site.

The feedback from almost every Durand resident was that the project was too large in scope on such a small site. Planning staff agreed and that feeling was reinforced along with other concerns related to the project when, on March 20th, 2018, they issued a Recommendation to Planning Committee to deny the application.

In the report, staff defended their recommendation of denial by providing the following rationale in the Official Plan Amendment and the Zoning By-law Amendment: "The proposed... ..does not comply with the policies and intent of the Urban Hamilton Official Plan and Downtown Hamilton Secondary Plan, with regards to matters including but not limited to, built form and compatible integration with the surrounding context, and sun shadow impacts."

I moved the staff recommendation and it was unanimously supported by my Planning Committee colleagues.

Here's the twist... as a first in my time as your Councillor and in my two terms on the Planning Committee, the proponent (Brad

Lamb) appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) in advance of the public meeting. So our public meeting was not actually an "official" public meeting because the matter was appealed and in the hands of the OMB. That said, we welcomed Durand delegates (all of whom spoke in support of the denial to the Television City project). I should note that the proponent presented and said that his appeal was not him "flipping his thumb" to the neighbours, but that the soon abolishment of the OMB was the reason for his appeal and that this was a "negotiation."

In the end, councillors not only supported the denial but approved a motion to have the City of Hamilton Planning and Legal staff defend the Television City OMB appeal.

As Frances Murray of the DNA rightly pointed out in the official Durand delegation, we are "not opposed to development." It is just that this one is too much on a tight site and doesn't conform with both policies and the surrounding area.

We'll keep you posted.

Councillor Farr

**Durand Neighbourhood Cleanup**  
 Saturday, April 21  
**Meet at Durand Coffee**  
 at 9:00am!

# CRIME MANAGER'S REPORT

**CRIME STATISTICS FOR THE DURAND NEIGHBOURHOOD** - February 16th to March 18th, 2018

<b>Robberies</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Commercial Break and Enters</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Residential Break and Enters</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Mischief to Auto</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Stolen Autos</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Theft from Auto</b>	<b>10</b>

Prepared by Sgt. Jen McFeggan #785  
 SouthTown Crime Manager



# COMMUNITY UPDATE

**BY: JANICE BROWN**

## **THE CONNOLLY (FORMERLY JAMES STREET BAPTIST) HAS A NEW BUYER**

The receiver, Spergel Inc., has entered into an agreement of purchase and sale for The Connolly, located at the site of the former James Street Baptist Church with Hue Developments and Investments Canada Inc. This is according to a March 6th notice that was sent by the bankruptcy trustee to those who purchased units.

According to reports, this proposal is being altered; however the builder still plans to include the stone facade of the former James Street South church in the development.

Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr stressed that The Connolly's planning approval included the retention of one-third of the designated facade, specific parking ratios and ground floor commercial space.

He also stated that "any proponent who comes along that doesn't want to contemplate the preservation of what remains of James Street Baptist is going to have an uphill battle."

The Durand Neighbourhood Association will follow this new proposal and developer closely. At this time we have put forward the following questions to Councillor Farr to be directed to Staff.

- What is the current state of the existing Heritage Designated structure?
- What was the date of the last site inspection?
- What do we know of the new proponent?
- Did the previous owner renege on any fees associated to his approval? If so, what was the dollar value?
- Where are the heritage artifacts and are they still to be incorporated into the design?

## **DURAND PARK WASHROOM NEW INSTALLATION DATE**

Unfortunately, we will not have a spring installation. However, the good news is that the design, colour, and building materials will complement the current materials that we have for our hard surfaces in Durand Park. The building will be 2/3's red brick like our entranceway; the upper 1/3 will be dark charcoal cement block and the roof will be the same as the sun/shade building, dark brown. Installation will start in September following the Durand Movie Night. We will be operating in 2019!

## **DURAND NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER STUDY**

The Planning and Development Department for the City of Hamilton have hired a consultant to review the Character Study submitted by Civic Plan on behalf of the Durand Neighbourhood Association. City staff is also helping with additional data collection to support the work of the consultant.

The consultant's draft report will then go to City staff, who will

review for any additions. The final Character Study will go to the Planning Committee (Council) in July, 2018.

Keep an eye on our website for more information!



## **NEW STREET SIGNS COMING FOR DURAND**

I do hope that most of you have noticed the new Heritage Conservation Street Signs that have been installed in Durand in our Heritage Conservation Districts; Charles MacNab and Durand Markland.

These new street signs are a result of Participatory Budget 2014. As we have only spent a portion of those funds, we are continuing to resign Durand. Durand, excluding the Conservation Districts, has a total of 150 signs. We have funds left to pay for 100 signs. Plan Local Ward 2 for 2018 has as its theme "Beautiful Streets and Landscapes." The DNA is proposing to nominate funds for the remaining signs in the upcoming Plan Local Ward 2 program. Here is the final design for the remainder of Durand.

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Keep an eye on our website for more information!

## **OTHER COMMUNITY EVENTS**



**SATURDAY MAY 5  
AND SUNDAY MAY 6**

[www.doorsopenontario.on.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca)



**SUNDAY MAY 6**  
[www.janeswalk.org/canada/hamilton/](http://www.janeswalk.org/canada/hamilton/)

# COMMUNITY UPDATE - CONTINUE

## ST. MARK'S GARDEN COMMITTEE

Contractors expect Phase 1 work on St. Mark's will be completed in the next month (April). Sod will then be installed; the site will be cleared of construction materials; it will be made safe. This is expected to be done by late May or early June.

At that time, the St. Mark's Garden Committee will meet on site. We will be mapping the sun pattern of the site morning, noon and late afternoon; we will monitor the wetness/dryness of the proposed garden areas.

At our first meeting in September 2017, we were asked to present a short list of small trees shrubs and foundations plantings as supplements to the current plantings as part of Phase 2. We will reaffirm our favourite suggestions. We will confirm the garden supplies for the new garden shed and lastly review a list of needs for our volunteers who will maintain the gardens of St. Mark's once this project is complete I will continue to update you.

If you are interested in volunteering for the St. Mark's garden team, please email your details to me, jedbrown2009@gmail.com, and I will add you to our growing list.

The site plan for St. Mark's Garden includes the following features and annotations:

- Proposed Driveway:** Asphalt driveway per City of Hamilton, Public Works Department, Document Number RD-114.
- Pedestrian Access:** Two points of access to the site, one with a curb ramp per City of Hamilton Barrier Free Design Guidelines - Section 5.1.5.
- Existing Infrastructure:** Existing hydro pole, curbs, cut, city side walk, and wrought iron fence.
- Plantings:** Large tree, stone path, existing city side walk, existing wrought iron fence, boxwood hedge, and various garden beds.
- Structures:** "Garbage Shed" (cart dimensions per City of Hamilton Waste Collection Design Requirements for New Development and Developments Appendix 2) and "Garden Shed" (Durand Neighbourhood Association).
- Other Features:** Rose garden, existing church (1 level), storage shed, and various utility lines (hydro, sewer, gas).
- Access Points:** "NO ACCESS" point near Street South.

Reference images on the right side of the plan:

- TYPICAL LARGE TREE:** Image of a large, mature tree.
- TYPICAL BENCH - WOOD/STONE (FLEXIBLE VIEWING POSITIONS):** Image of a wooden bench with stone supports.
- TYPICAL BOXWOOD HEDGE:** Image of a dense, green boxwood hedge.
- TYPICAL GROUND COVER:** Image of a low-growing, green ground cover plant.
- TYPICAL LOW LYING SHRUBS:** Image of various low-lying shrubs and flowers.
- TYPICAL ROSE GARDEN:** Image of a garden with red and pink roses.

# EASTER EGG HUNT



Photos courtesy of Ralph Wilson & Ute Schmidt-Jones

## SLOW DOWN ON QUEEN

**BY: TOM FLOOD**

After yet another serious crash on Queen Street in February of this year, many residents of the Durand and Kirkendall neighbourhoods lined up on Queen, with many engaged community members from other areas also present to show their support. Setup at the crossover at Herkimer, the group brought attention to the ongoing crashes and speed issues that plague this street and the larger city.

At its peak there were around 65 people lined up with their children, signs, and pylons raising awareness that people live here, kids walk to school here and our most vulnerable residents all use these streets. Local Councillors, Jason Farr and Aidan Johnson, were also in attendance alongside most of the local media who covered the event.

Queen Street is set to become two-way in 2019, however temporary measures are desperately needed to help slow down this street in the interim. Sadly there was another crash the last week of March where a vehicle ended up on the sidewalk at Stanley.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

**BY: ANNE TENNIER**

As part of my role as treasurer of the Durand Neighbourhood Association, I have the privilege of getting to know many of you through membership renewals and as new members. We all know that members and volunteers are vital to any organization – the more of each we have, the more events, issue tracking, updates and support we can provide to the community at large.

Your neighbourhood association has been very busy this past year on events alone – the 45th anniversary and Canada 150 celebration in June, Movie Night in September, and most recently our first ever Easter Egg Hunt, all held in beautiful Durand Park.

If you've enjoyed any or all of these events, I invite you to join the DNA. Membership fees are modest - \$10 for 1 year, \$15 for two years or \$20 for 3 years and cover all members of your household. Membership fees help cover part of the costs of any events that we run – the more members we have, the more we can offer you!

Joining the DNA couldn't be easier! Just go to our website and join online at <http://www.durandna.com/store/> or, if you'd rather pay cash or via cheque, download and print our membership form

at <http://www.durandna.com/wp-content/uploads/Durand-Membership-Application-2018.pdf> and mail it or drop it off at Durand Coffee, 142 Charlton Avenue West, Hamilton, ON L8P 2C7. You know you've thought about it...this time, go ahead and join the DNA!

## PLANNING UPDATE

**BY: PAUL NICHOLS**

### **NEW DOWNTOWN SECONDARY PLAN DRAFT RELEASED**

The City first introduced the review of the Downtown Secondary Plan in June of 2011. After over half a decade of work and public consultation, the Proposed Downtown Hamilton Secondary Plan, Downtown Zones & Utility Zone, and the Tall Buildings Study and Guidelines. These documents will be presented to Planning Committee on April 17, 2018. This plan has the potential to significantly impact the build fabric and character of the downtown, including the Durand.

[www.hamilton.ca/city-planning/planning-community/downtown-hamilton](http://www.hamilton.ca/city-planning/planning-community/downtown-hamilton)

### **TELEVISION CITY DEVELOPMENT**

Hearing dates have not been set at the Ontario Municipal Board; however, Brad Lamb has filed an appeal even before the City's Planning Committee voted to oppose the Television City development. Located on the former CHCH site at Hunter Street West and Caroline Street South, the development has led to significant debates over what type of development would be contextually appropriate for the site. The current application proposes two towers for the site, one 30 storeys, the other 40.

Key concerns around the proposed development include the impact of increased density on the site, impacts that include increased vehicular traffic; and the impacts on the Durand neighbourhood – a neighbourhood with some of the highest density in Hamilton, yet with only one neighbourhood park. In addition, the high of the proposed towers had led to concerns over shadowing adjacent properties and the contextual relationship between the towers and the escarpment.

Members of the community, including members of the Durand Neighbourhood Association delegated against the application at the City's Planning Committee. City staff also recommended denying the related rezoning application.

# Join DNA Online!

Have you visited the DNA website lately? We recently refreshed it to be simpler to navigate and easier to read on mobile devices. Head to [www.durandna.com](http://www.durandna.com) to see the updates! Our Facebook Group has been growing in popularity and we encourage you to join us at

[www.facebook.com/groups/  
DurandNeighbourhoodAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/groups/DurandNeighbourhoodAssociation)

Our Terms of Use have been updated to ensure all of our members and supporters can safely engage with the DNA and each other. We encourage thoughtful and respectful discussion regarding our neighbourhood and understand that not everyone agrees with each other. Please be considerate when posting and help us make our online presence a safe environment free of abusive behaviour.

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