

Chair's report May 8, 2018

Vandalism in Old Ottawa East

- many of you are probably already aware of the incidents in the early hours of Sunday, April 29 in the Archville area of OOE
- FYI - I received the following media release on Monday, April 30 from our Community Policing Officer, Stephanie Lemieux:

"The Ottawa Police Service is currently investigating a significant mischief/damage to property that occurred on Sunday April 29th 2018 at approximately 1am within the area bound by Lees Avenue, Chestnut Street, Springhurst Avenue and Main Street in Ottawa. The incident involved a series of parked vehicles, houses and a local park's play structure equipment that were vandalized and spray painted. Criminal Investigators have charged:

- 18 year old Connor HUTCHESON of Ottawa for one count of Mischief to Property over five thousand dollars
- 19 year old Thomas GAGNON-JONES of Ottawa for one count of Mischief to Property over five thousand dollars
- And a male Young Offender from Ottawa for one count of Mischief to Property under five thousand dollars and one count of Assault with intent to Resist Arrest

Anyone with information is asked to call the Central Criminal Investigations office at #613-236-1222 ext: 5166."

- Cst Stephanie Lemieux has agreed to attend our Board meeting on Tuesday; at that time, she has indicated that she will try to provide as much information as she can about this latest incident

Immaculata school field

- the Ottawa Catholic School Board plans for the new artificial turf field and resurfaced running track continue to move forward; fencing has been installed to remove public access to the field and construction equipment is in place
- construction details are now posted on the Immaculata school web site <http://imh.ocsb.ca>
- Neighbours for Community Fields, a group of concerned residents, are continuing to voice their concerns about the proposed development (in particular, the potential impacts from noise, lights, parking and traffic) and are considering future options
- as I have written in my most recent Mainstreeter column (to be published in the next several weeks), I continue to personally struggle with a number of issues:

Should the public have the right to access publicly funded school grounds after hours, particularly in the inner core of Ottawa where green space is at a premium? (Note that the City has instituted a policy to share school fields with school boards in the suburbs.)

And is there really no change in the use of a field when lights are installed and a commercial enterprise can operate the facility weekday evenings from 6:00 to 11:00pm and from 8:00am to 11:00pm on weekends? (Note it is only when there is a change in use that public consultations are required.)

Park / Rideau River Wester Pathway clean-up

- clean-ups by local residents have recently been undertaken at both Springhurst and Brantwood Parks; I think we should all thank the volunteers who have adopted the parks and try to ensure that they remain free of garbage and other litter
- however, one of the most problematic areas is near the dumpster behind [170 Lees](#); several 311 calls by residents have been made to try to ensure the property managers deal with the garbage that drifts from the dumpster on to the RRWP and the river front
- although the area immediately around the dumpster has been cleared, the garbage that has "drifted" has typically been left for others to deal with & the problem regularly recurs

Clegg / Fifth bridge

- while the bridge construction continues to move forward and significant milestones are being reached, I understand that there are significant noise challenges being faced by those living close to the canal
- there has been overnight construction recently which has made an already difficult situation much worse for local residents

Springhurst Park Action (SPA)

- as many of you are no doubt already aware, SPA has been promoting a 3 season game sharing program in Springhurst Park for the last several years
- Over the last two seasons, an all weather Table Tennis Table, Semi Mobile Volleyball Net, 2 Portable Soccer Nets and a permanent Soccer rebound wall, many sturdy hula hoops and two " giant" Jenga sets have been made available
- also two portable badminton sets and Table Tennis racquets, net and balls, a volleyball and lighter balls for smaller kids to volley have been donated for community use
- The total cost for all of this equipment has been less than \$1000.
- The non-fragile and non-portable items are left in the park for the season with no significant loss, theft or damage in the two years of operation.
- The smaller and fragile items (TT racquets and balls, volleyball and misc balls and badminton sets) are stowed nightly.
- check out SPA's Facebook page for more information
- on Saturday, June 2 SPA is joining the 100in1day event; SPA would like still more people to come and be aware of what SPA offers and enjoy it both that day and in the future, as well as to show the success of this great concept to other individuals, groups and City staff that want to make their local City Park an even more vibrant and joyful place for "kids of all ages" to frequent
- "100in1Day Ottawa is part of a growing global movement that is changing how people interact with their cities. The festival provides residents with a platform to showcase their ideas aimed to spark change in their communities and share a vision for a better city." <http://synapcity.ca/workshop/100in1day/>

Main Event

- also mark your calendars for the Main Event on Saturday, June 16
- once again we will be working the barbeque as one of our main fund raisers

Main Street traffic review

- note that we have heard from our Councillors's office that an initial meeting with City staff on this review was held on May 3; more information is to follow as the process gets underway

Alta Vista Transportation Corridor environmental assessment update

- the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor environmental assessment is due to expire within the next several years
- on the premise that the best defence is a good offence, Don Fugler has contacted City staff to ask that his name be considered as a public representative if there is another EA process for this project
- note that he served on the last EA, plus the EA of the transportation needs of the SE sector that preceded it