

JOIN THE SRRA. GET INVOLVED. YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

This is a busy time for the South Rosedale Residents' Association, with proposals for two major development projects in our neighbourhood and many other matters requiring our time and attention. We had a big, possibly record, turnout for our 2016 Annual General Meeting, where members voiced strong opinions about protecting the integrity of our neighbourhood in the face of development pressure.

Through this newsletter, you'll see a few of the many issues your Association is tackling, ranging from development to infrastructure renewal.

We hope these issues will inspire you to get involved. We need your voice, either as a volunteer on a project or subcommittee, or as a member of the SRRA Board of Directors. We also need your financial support: please renew your annual membership if you're an existing member, or join the SRRA as a new member. Please also consider making an additional donation, which will help to ensure the SRRA has the resources needed to represent you effectively.

At this time I'd like to welcome two new directors, Roman Droniuk and Trish Del Sorbo, both of whom bring passion for South Rosedale and valued expertise to the Board. I'd also like to thank former directors Gina Brannan, Kathleen Hanly, David Sharpe and Heather Senst and for their significant contributions to our community.

Don Hogarth
President, SRRA

CALL FOR SRRA VOLUNTEERS AND DIRECTORS

The SRRA is looking for volunteers and new directors to help serve our community.

Have a few hours here or there?
Have passion and/or expertise in heritage, the web, finance or another functional area?
Tech savvy? Love to blog/Tweet?
Looking to give back?

If the answer to any or all of these questions is yes, please contact us at info@southrosedale.org. Join us as a volunteer or as a Director.

Volunteer opportunities are available in a number of areas including: Treasury & Finance, Web Hosting and Customer Relationship Management (CRM), Communications, Parks and Trees, Development, Heritage, Security, Traffic and parking, Special Projects Fundraising. Contact us to find out more.

Directors participate in monthly meetings and tackle longer-term assignments in areas of need.

GLEN RD. FOOTBRIDGE RENEWAL INITIATIVE ADVANCES

The City of Toronto is now evaluating design options for a new Glen Road pedestrian bridge and investigating ways to improve the adjacent pedestrian tunnel under Bloor Street.

Technical work is underway as the City prepares for the next round of public consultations, expected to be held in the late spring or early summer. The SRRA has been involved in the process since the start.

Hundreds of South Rosedale residents voiced strong support for repairing or replacing the bridge in its current location, and rejected the option of scrapping it, with few expressing opposing views. A request for comments by the City last year, publicized at the time by the SRRA, generated hundreds of responses.



A follow-up public consultation meeting in September 2016 found "consistent support for replacing the bridge in its current location, with general preference for a similar simple design," and a "desire for personal safety improvements in the pedestrian tunnel," according to a summary posted by the City. No final decisions have been made.

The bridge, which spans Rosedale Valley Road, is deteriorating and is in need of major improvements or replacement. The existing bridge was rehabilitated in 2001 and emergency repairs were undertaken in early 2015 to address structural issues.

A bridge has existed in the current location for more than 130 years, connecting Rosedale to the city. The bridge is listed on the City's inventory of heritage bridges and is part of the South Rosedale Heritage Conservation District.

Information on the project can be found online at www.toronto.ca/glen-rd-ped-bridge.

SOUTH ROSEDALE COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

SRRA members and neighbours – please join us for Community Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 22. We will meet at 10 a.m. at the following locations:

- Craighigh Gardens - South Drive entrance
- Rosedale Subway Station main entrance

It's a great way for you and other community members to get acquainted, enjoy spring weather, and help keep your neighbourhood clean. Just bring yourself and some work gloves. We provide everything else required. Students earn community service hours.

We look forward to seeing you on April 22nd!



Rosedale Clean up
Apr 23, 2016

END PARKING ON CRESCENT ROAD, OTHER STREETS?

The City is considering a proposal to remove all parking on Crescent Road between Yonge Street and South Drive.

City Transportation staff have expressed support for the proposal due to issues related to the relatively narrow width of Crescent Road and the impact on the TTC bus that travels the route, especially during winter. Two-way traffic, coupled with parking and the bus, causes some drivers to veer onto the sidewalk, as well as backups. The issue was first brought to light by a Crescent Road resident, according to Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam's office.

Arguments to keep the current parking rules unchanged include the traffic calming effect of narrow spaces and demand for on-street parking on at least part of Crescent Road. The road appears to be busier than ever before, with two-way daily traffic volume of about 4,500 vehicles, likely in part because it is used as an "alternative route" by some commuters.

Currently, vehicles may park on most of Crescent Road's south side anytime except 4-6 p.m. on weekdays. No parking is allowed on the north side.

Separately, a South Rosedale resident has raised the issue of some local streets being used as free commuter parking, and has proposed that measures be taken to address this. Currently, weekday parking is permitted on many streets at 10 a.m.

The SRRA would like to hear your opinion on these parking issues. Please contact us via email at info@southrosedale.org.

VALE OF AVOCA/YELLOW CREEK RAVINE RESTORATION

Several Residents' Associations including the SRRA have formed a working group to urge the City to address the deterioration of the Vale of Avoca/Yellow Creek Ravine.

The ravine, which runs from the south end of Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Deer Park through Rosedale to the Brick Works in the Don River Valley, has declined over the past few years as a result of neglect and flood-induced erosion. This has resulted in washed out bridges, unsafe paths, broken stairs and other safety, as well as environmental, concerns.



A section of Yellow Creek showing the state of disrepair
(c/o scenesto.wordpress.com)

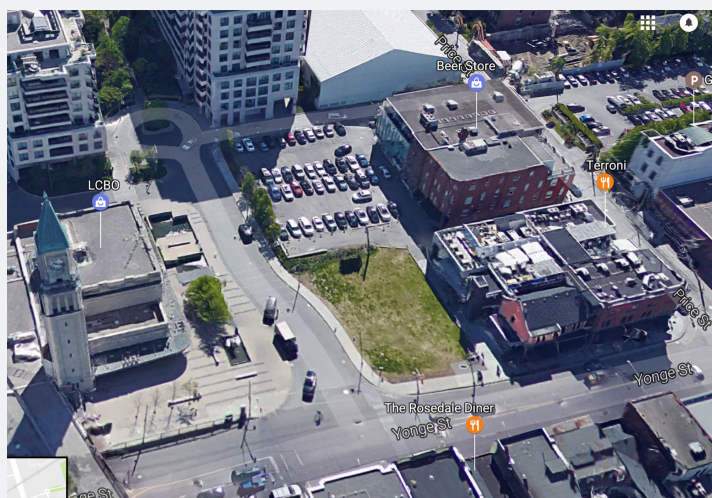
This extensive ravine area is widely used by South Rosedale residents for hiking, cycling, dog walking and other activities. It is an important recreational and environmental resource for all of the surrounding residential neighbourhoods.

The working group, headed by John Bossons of the Summerhill Residents' Association, has had substantial support from Councillors Kristyn Wong Tam and Josh Matlow, who spurred the creation of a committee composed of City staff and community representatives to focus on the development of a Master Plan for the restoration of the ravine. This is welcomed and much needed progress.

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSED FOR SCRIVENER SQUARE

Developers Diamondcorp and TriCon are continuing to move forward with a proposal for a major development at Scrivener Square, in the area immediately south of the Summerhill LCBO.

The SRRA, along with the Summerhill Residents Association, ABC Residents' Association (Yorkville/Midtown), neighbouring condominium buildings and the Toronto Lawn Tennis Club, has been participating in a neighbourhood engagement process initiated by the development team.



Aerial View of Scrivener Square (c/o Google Maps)

The working group was convened by the developers to obtain community input before they submit formal plans to the City. The developers have agreed to continue the discussions and to consider revisions after an application is filed.

The site, located next to the "Five Thieves" at Yonge St. and Price St., is currently occupied by a Beer Store, low rise office building, parking lot and an open, grass-covered area. The vision is for retail space at lower levels, luxury apartments in mid-rise buildings and a high rise tower, and public space.

The SRRA is mindful of the development history of Scrivener Square, including the planning framework established for the site as a result of lengthy negotiations with the original owners. We will continue to advance the relevant issues related to the framework in ongoing discussions with the developer.

The SRRA will also participate in the City-led community consultation process after an application is submitted, and will actively represent the interests of South Rosedale residents.

SOUTH ROSEDALE TO "MOVE" UNDER REDRAWN MUNICIPAL WARD BOUNDARIES

Municipal ward boundary changes approved by City Council late last year would combine South Rosedale, North Rosedale, Moore Park and Summerhill into a new ward with the portion of Riverdale lying north of Danforth Avenue.

There is one more hurdle to cross before the new boundaries take effect: a bylaw must be passed by the end of this year for the changes to apply to the 2018 vote. The new boundaries would also be subject to any appeals at the Ontario Municipal Board.

South Rosedale is currently located in municipal Ward 27 - Toronto Centre-Rosedale, the largest of Toronto's 44 wards, with 56% more residents than the average. Our ward extends from just north of St. Clair Avenue all the way to Queen Street in the south.

SRRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

Don Hogarth - President and Director
David Townley - Past President and Director
Alex Murray - Vice President and Director
Jack Ground - Secretary and Director
Chris Allen
Trish Del Sorbo
Roman Doroniuk
Bill Fleury
David Moore
Peter J. Schneiders

Visit southrosedale.org for information about SRRA and neighbourhood news and events.

2017 SRRA MEMBERSHIP DUES

The SRRA is your voice to protect and enhance your neighbourhood. All homeowners in South Rosedale are encouraged to join, or renew their membership, to support our work. Multi-unit residents are members through their building associations.

For new and renewing SRRA members, the fee for 2017 is \$75. We offer the following options for payment:

- Pay online at www.southrosedale.org/donations with a credit card or PayPal
- Send an Interac e-transfer to treasurer@southrosedale.org
- Mail a cheque with the attached membership form to the address provided

Thank you to all new and renewing members!

SPRING 2017 SRRA NEWSLETTER

SRRA ENGAGES WITH DALE AVENUE DEVELOPERS TO SEEK NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION

Informal, off-the-record discussions have been initiated between the developers proposing a multi-unit condominium building at 5, 7 and 9 Dale Avenue, the SRRA and MyRosedaleNeighbourhood, a community organization formed in direct response to the development proposal.

The common goal of these discussions is to explore possibilities for a negotiated resolution that meets the needs and wishes of the South Rosedale Community. An SRRA subcommittee is focused exclusively on the proposed development, and the Board is in process of retaining professional advisors to assist in achieving the goals noted above. This is being done jointly, on a cooperative basis, with MyRosedaleNeighbourhood.

The current discussions follow the community consultation meeting convened by the City Planning Division late last fall where the developers presented their proposal and many residents expressed their views. Both the SRRA and MyRosedale also made brief presentations at the meeting. MyRosedaleNeighbourhood has also circulated a petition (www.change.org/o/my_rosedale_neighbourhood) encouraging residents to voice their opinion.

The talks are consistent with the SRRA's stated approach to the development proposal as outlined at the Association's annual general meeting in November 2016 and in the "Statement of Principles" posted on SRRA's website at <http://bit.ly/2nBmE2G>

The development, as originally proposed, has generated concern among many members of the community. In its Preliminary Report of September 15, 2016, the City Planning Division identified a number of

unresolved issues including siting, height and density; heritage impact; and tree protection and removal.

The proposal filed with the City last year calls for a 4-storey, 26-unit residential building. The structure, as proposed, would have 94,550 square feet of residential floor area with a density of 1.99 times the area of the site and a height of 16.1 metres including a mechanical penthouse. Three one-storey residential bungalows currently occupying the site, all rated "C" under the South Rosedale Heritage Conservation District, would be demolished.

At the time of writing, it is too early to predict the outcome of the current discussions. Additional updates will be provided to the SRRA membership as the process unfolds.



Rendering of the Proposed Development as Originally Proposed (Source: City of Toronto)

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