

# Councillor Frances Nunziata

Ward 5 York South—Weston

Council Speaker



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## Dear Friends,

*Our Community is experiencing remarkable growth, and I understand that many of you have been part of this community for several years. Change can be intimidating, especially with the numerous developments happening in Weston, Mount Dennis, and throughout Ward 5. However, I want to reassure you that my dedication to our community remains unwavering.*

*I will persist in keeping residents engaged through community meetings, weekly e-newsletter updates, and public notices. Our advocacy has led to new improvements for parks, streetscapes, and much more.*

*Despite some unfortunate delays, I am excited to share the substantial enhancements to our parks and centres in York South—Weston. I have collaborated closely with residents, community associations, and City of Toronto staff to ensure the safety and accessibility of all parks and trails. In this newsletter, you'll find a carefully curated list of upgrades scheduled for completion in the upcoming year, taking into account unforeseen setbacks, as well as improvements successfully completed over the past year.*

*With the collective effort we've invested over the years, I was honored to receive the Province of Ontario's Long-standing Service Award. It is a privilege to be able to work alongside the incredible communities in York South—Weston. I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you for your relentless advocacy for your communities, and I am thrilled and honored to continue this wonderful partnership for the next three years.*

*As we approach the winter season, I wish you and your families a safe and joyful holiday season.*

Warmest Regards,

**Frances Nunziata**

City Councillor for Ward 5 | York South—Weston  
Council Speaker



## George Brown College

George Brown College is taking positive steps to establish a presence in Mount Dennis following continued meetings with my office and consultations with residents and community organizations. Their analysis highlighted the demand for post-secondary education options in the area, given its significant population of college-aged students and diverse learners.

To fulfill this need, George Brown College is committed to working with the Mount Dennis community to co-design partnerships and programs. Their goal is to make post-secondary education accessible and sustainable for Mount Dennis residents.

As background, George Brown enlisted the support of Monumental, a consulting firm that drives equitable, culturally sensitive city-building and real estate development. They conducted interviews with key local leaders and hosted sector-specific roundtable discussions with representatives from our local youth, social services sector, and Black communities. Additionally, they connected directly with local business owners and operators through a small business walk-about.

The community has responded positively to the college's potential presence in Mount Dennis, provided that open communication and addressing community needs remain a priority.

In 2024, George Brown College will appoint a dedicated Community Lead to enhance their collaboration and initiate the introduction of programs. I will be sure to keep you all up to date with the latest developments of this exciting project.





# Community Safety

## Neighbourhood Community Officers (NCO)

Neighbourhood Community Officers work in partnership with local residents and community-based organizations to address crime, disorder and community safety issues. They are embedded in one neighbourhood for at least four years to actively co-develop solutions and mobilize Toronto Police resources in order to reduce crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. Acting as ambassadors for the Toronto Police Service, they work collaboratively with residents as well as community agencies to build sustainable solutions.

As of May 23, 2022, the program has expanded to serve 51 out of the 158 identified city neighbourhoods, an increase of 13 neighbourhoods. In York South-Weston, TPS 12 Division has Neighbourhood Community Officers for the following communities:

- ◆ **Rockcliffe-Smythe**
- ◆ **Rustic**
- ◆ **Weston**
- ◆ **Beechborough-Greenbrook.**

If you would like to contact your local NCO, please contact TPS 12 Division at 416-808-1200 or on-line at [TPS.ca](https://www.tps.ca).

## Maple Leaf & Rustic Neighbourhood Streets Plan

I am excited to announce a crucial public consultation meeting regarding the Maple Leaf—Rustic Traffic Study. This meeting is scheduled for **Monday December 4th, 2023 at 6 p.m.** and will take place at **15 Benton Road**. This study is critical as it directly impacts the safety and well-being of our community. It offers an opportunity for all stakeholders, including residents, local businesses, and relevant authorities, to engage in a constructive dialogue about traffic safety concerns, share valuable insights, and contribute to the development of solutions that enhance our roadways. Your participation is important in shaping the future of our community, and I look forward to your input as we work collaboratively to create safer and more efficient traffic systems. Join us on December 4th to make your voice heard and help us ensure a safer tomorrow for everyone.



## Weston Cycling Connections Project

The first on-street cycling facilities within the Weston neighbourhood. These bikeways are proposed to be installed on Pine Street, Wright Avenue, and Sam Frustaglio Drive in summer 2024.

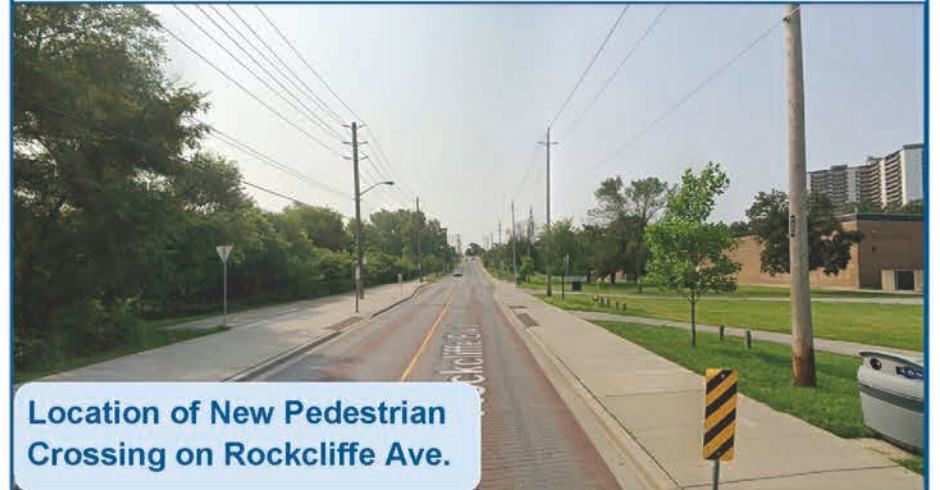
I have asked for a Public Consultation Meeting to gather input from local residents to provide valuable input on how this may affect our day to day lives. This meeting will take place on **Tuesday November 28th, 2023 at 6 p.m. at Weston Collegiate Institute.**

A second phase of consultation will take place in fall 2024 for east-west cycling connections to be installed in summer 2025. Sign up for project updates, including information about the upcoming public event and survey, at [toronto.ca/westoncycling](https://toronto.ca/westoncycling).

## Rockcliffe Avenue Pedestrian Crossing

After many conversations with parents, the TDSB and City staff, I successfully championed a motion securing the installation of a much-needed pedestrian crossing on Rockcliffe Avenue. This crossing is necessary to ensure the safety of the 400 students who attend the temporary Dennis Avenue Community School while they are being dropped off and picked up by their guardians. I want to express my gratitude to the dedicated staff and committed members of the Dennis C.S. Staff and Parent Council for bringing this safety concern to my attention.

I'm pleased to announce that City staff are diligently working on this project, with the aim of having the new crossing in place by next summer.



## New Bikeshare Stations

In October, York South—Weston welcomed 15 new Bikeshare stations across Ward 5. These stations will provide residents with convenient access to the City's Bikeshare system. With this system, residents can easily purchase either a short-term pass or an annual membership directly from [Bikesharetoronto.com](https://bikesharetoronto.com). Additionally, short-term passes can be acquired through station kiosks or by downloading the PBSC app.

Here's a preview of the stations that were installed:

1. Scarlett Rd / Eileen Ave (at the Hydro Corridor)
2. Scarlett Rd / Old Scarlett Rd
3. Jane St / Haney Ave
4. Rogers Rd / Bicknell Ave (west of Keele St)
5. Eglinton Ave W / Black Creek Dr (at the York Recreation Centre)
6. Keele St / Trowell Ave
7. Eglinton Ave W / Venn Cres
8. Emmett Ave / Jane St
9. Trethewey Dr / Black Creek Dr
10. Keele St / Ingram Dr
11. Jane St / Lawrence Ave W
12. Jane St / Queens Dr
13. Jane St / Weston Rd
14. Cruiskshank Park (along the Humber River Recreational Trail)
15. Weston Rd / St. Phillips Rd (Mallaby Park)

The City of Toronto is investigating more potential locations for future installations. I'll ensure that you stay well-informed as additional details become available through my office.

## Stay Updated

Stay informed about the latest news in York South - Weston by subscribing to my weekly eNewsletter:

[councillornunziata.com/subscribe](https://councillornunziata.com/subscribe)



# Parks & Recreation Improvements

## North Park

The City is improving North Park! These improvements will be focused near the existing tennis courts and may include a new playground, outdoor fitness equipment, a gathering area, line painting for games on the parking pad, tennis court resurfacing, water bottle filler and new tree plantings. Design options are currently being developed and will be shared with the local community for feedback later this year. For more information please visit the project webpage at [toronto.ca/north park improvement](https://toronto.ca/north-park-improvement)



## Amesbury & Pelmo Community Centre Programming

After many meetings with local residents and staff, I pushed to create more programming at the Amesbury and Pelmo Community Centres. As the City's commitment to our community continues to grow, the City is expanding their efforts to better serve the diverse needs and interests of our residents. These new programs, which have been meticulously designed with your input in mind, aim to foster a sense of togetherness, learning, and enrichment within our neighborhood.

From engaging after-school activities for our youth to wellness and fitness programs for adults, there's something for everyone to look forward to. The goal is to create a safe and inclusive space where individuals of all ages can come together, learn new skills, and build lasting connections.

## Completed Park Improvements

- Gaffney Trail** - Restoration of Trail and new seating
- Eglinton Flats** - New Fitness Equipment Installed
- Keele Dale Park** - New installed LED Lighting
- Coronation Park** - Playground Enhancements
- Holley Park** - Playground Enhancements
- Noble Park Basketball Court** - Restoration of Court
- Eglinton Flats Northwest** - Pavilion repairs
- Haverson Park** - LED Lighting Upgrades

## Maple Leaf and Pelmo Park Splash Pad

Originally, these Splash Pad's were set to be completed by the end of 2023. However, due to unforeseen challenges associated with water connections, stemming from issues with planning by Toronto Water, the City has rescheduled the construction timeline.

The project will now commence and conclude by the end of spring in 2024. I understand the impact of this delay on our community, and I remain dedicated to keeping you informed as further updates arise.



## DOLA - Pelmo Park

Earlier this year, I arranged funding for the highly requested Dog off Leash Park in Pelmo Park. The City will be conducting consultation meetings with residents early next year to gather input from the community on design ideas and safety concerns of pet owners.

## Runnymede Park Improvements

After numerous consultation meetings, the City has finalized a design for the upgrades at Runnymede Park. Construction is set to commence in Fall 2024 and be completed before Winter 2024.

# Community Expansion

## Orman - Symes Road Rehabilitation

I'm thrilled to share that after years of working with local residents and community groups, construction has finally begun on Symes Road and Orman Avenue. These upgrades will enhance safety in the neighbourhood and reduce commercial vehicle traffic. Construction is well underway and expected to be completed by the end of November.



## Mount Dennis Child Care Centre

This new state of the art daycare facility is currently 85% complete. Once open, the Mount Dennis Early Learning and Child Care Centre at 1234 Weston Road will have 98 spaces for children in the community.

This building will be a Net Zero Energy Building, and it will lead the way for future net-zero building projects in the area.

Those interested in applying for the wait list may do so by visiting the City of Toronto's TELCCS - Waitlist Registration.

## Weston Retirement Village

Weston Retirement Village offers Independent Living and Assisted Living with comfort, privacy, every convenience and the added benefits of being part of a safe and secure community. If the needs of residents change over time, they may upgrade to a service package with medication assistance and other essential services. 105 newly built and Suites at 2 Buttonwood Avenue will be ready for occupancy in early 2024.

Call **437-881-7118** for more details or Pre-register at <http://www.retirementvillage.ca/pre-register-now/>

## 2346 Weston Rd. - Affordable Rentals for Seniors

This new building will contain 126 affordable rental units for seniors. The occupancy for this development is tentative for May 2024. This will ensure that seniors in our community have a comfortable place to enjoy retirement. You can pre-register for a unit at [2346weston.ca](https://2346weston.ca) (Website opens mid December). More information will be shared on my e-news.





# Community News

## Environment Days

The Community Environment Days were very successful, bringing together residents, local businesses, and community organizations in a collective effort to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship. The event saw a significant turnout, with participants engaging in various eco-friendly activities like leaf compost, recycling drives, and informative workshops. I hope to see more of you at next years Environment Days!



## Developments

### The Quilt

The Quilt (1240-1250 Weston Rd.) is proposing a 14 storey building consisting of 175 affordable residential units including retail and community space. This application is expected to be approved by City Council this year with the expectation of construction to begin late 2024. This will be a welcomed development to the Mount Dennis area that will provide much needed affordable housing and community space.

### Weston Park Development

This application proposal is for 2 towers at 1871 - 1885 Weston Rd. One tower of fifty storeys and the second of 46 storeys consisting on a total of 1032 residential units, which will include Worship space, a 400 seat Performance Hall and a regulation-size Gymnasium for community use. This application is expected to be approved by City Council this year with the expectation of construction to begin late 2024.

For more information on developments in your area visit the city website: [www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning](http://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning)

## City Services and Cost Saving Resources

### Toronto Rent Bank

This program provides support to Toronto residents who are behind on their rent or need help with a rental deposit. By doing so Toronto Rent Bank grants ensure that low-income individuals and families are able to stay in their homes and avoid homelessness. On June 16, 2022, City Council approved a change to the Toronto Rent Bank which converts it to a permanent grant-based program. For people experiencing financial hardships due to repayment of the earlier loan program, the City is working with partners to create a path towards repayment easing or loan forgiveness. Eligible residents can call the Toronto Rent Bank at 416-397-RENT (7368).

### Ontario Electricity Support Program

If you are in a low-income bracket, you may qualify for a reduction in your electricity bill. The Ontario Electricity Support Program (OESP) provides a monthly credit to eligible customers based on household income and size. To learn more, please contact my office or visit: [ontario-electricitysupport.ca](http://ontario-electricitysupport.ca).

### Home Energy Loan Program (HELP)

This initiative will offer up to \$125,000 in loans and incentives to help Toronto homeowners make their homes more energy-efficient and reduce the emissions contributing to climate change. More information is available on the City's Home Energy Loan Program webpage, Application intake will commence in late 2023.

You can also apply to the Federal Government's Canada Greener Home Loan program for up to \$40,000 in zero-interest loans.

### Front or Side Door Garbage Collection

This service is provided to seniors and residents who are not physically able to carry their materials to the curb and who do not have an able-bodied person living with them. (Eligibility is not age-related) To qualify, residents must fill out an application and have it signed by their physician. **Yard waste, oversized, and metal items (including large appliances and furniture) are NOT eligible for front/side door collection.**

**These items are collected at curbside only.**

For more information about this service, please contact my office.



## Community Projects

### Scarlett Rail Bridge Expansion

The final design phase is swiftly nearing completion, and I'm happy to share that advanced utility relocation work is currently underway. Bell, Rogers, and Lumen are actively working in the area to ensure the necessary infrastructure is in place for the upcoming construction.

Specifically, Toronto Hydro Utility design work is ongoing, and the relocation construction is scheduled to commence in early 2024, aiming for completion by the end of summer 2024. This proactive utility work, preceding the City's bridge and road construction, is essential to minimize potential conflicts and delays during the project. In anticipation of the construction phase, the City plans to host a Public Information Meeting to provide detailed insights into construction phasing, traffic management, anticipated impacts, and mitigation efforts. Your involvement and understanding of this project are invaluable, and we will continue to keep you informed as the project progresses.

### St. Clair West Transportation Master Plan

Elements of the St. Clair Avenue West Area Transportation Master Plan is being concurrently designed with the St. Clair Old Weston SmartTrack Station by Metrolinx. The design is to be finalized in early 2024.

Starting in 2024, residents and business owners can anticipate seeing crews out on-site conducting preconstruction works (soil testing, and geotechnical works).

Based on the current schedule the tentative construction timeline will be between late 2024 to 2030. More specific timelines and stages will be available as the design is finalized.

## Stay in Touch

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