

# Notice of Public Meeting Markham's new Official Plan

(In accordance with Sections 17 and 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended)

You are invited to attend a Public Meeting to learn about and provide comments on Markham's new Draft Official Plan. The Draft Official Plan sets out where and how our City will grow over the next 20 years.

**DATE:** Tuesday, November 6, 2012  
**TIME:** Open House 6 to 7 pm  
Public Meeting 7 pm

**PLACE:** Markham Civic Centre  
(Council Chambers)  
101 Town Centre Blvd.

An Open House will be held from 6 to 7 pm prior to the Public Meeting. Markham staff will be available at the Open House to answer questions on the Draft Official Plan. The Open House portion of the evening is an information session only and does not constitute part of the statutory Public Meeting on November 6, 2012.

**Note: In addition to this Public Meeting, a series of Community Open Houses will be held in November and December 2012, followed by a second Public Meeting in early 2013. Separate notices will be issued for these meetings, once dates have been confirmed.**

### Why has a new Official Plan been prepared?

The Official Plan is a statutory document that sets out land use policy to guide growth, land use planning and development approvals in Markham. The Planning Act requires that municipalities review their Official Plans at least every 5 years. The City initiated an Official Plan Review program in 2011. The new Draft Official Plan implements recent provincial policies and plans such as the Greenbelt Plan and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, and the York Region Official Plan. It also implements a Council-endorsed strategy for accommodating population and employment growth to 2031 that directs most of the growth to identified centres along proposed rapid transit routes, and allows for limited expansion of the urban area. The Plan provides a vision for growth in Markham based on the principles of protecting natural environment and agricultural lands, building healthy communities, increasing travel options and maintaining a strong economy.

Markham's new Official Plan is comprised of three parts: Part 1 – Official Plan; Part 2 – Secondary Plans; and Part 3 – Site Specific Policies. Part 1, which contains policies that apply City-wide, has been released for review and comment. Parts 2 and 3, which will contain area-specific and site-specific policies, will be released at a later date. The Official Plan policies under review apply to the entire municipality of Markham, and therefore a key map is not provided with this notice. No decisions will be made on the new Draft Official Plan at the Public Meeting.

Additional information on past consultation, background studies and more is available on our website [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) (Click on Draft Official Plan under Markham News).

### Where can I get a copy of the Draft Official Plan?

You can view an electronic copy of the Draft Official Plan – Part I online at [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) (Click on Draft Official Plan under Markham News)

Or view a copy at our Clerk's Department (Markham Civic Centre, 101 Town Centre Blvd., Main Floor) from Monday to Friday between 8:30 and 4:30 pm from October 11, 2012 to January 31, 2013. Copies are also available for viewing at Markham's public libraries.

A hard copy or CD of the new Draft Official Plan – Part I is also available for purchase at the Development

Services Counter (Markham Civic Centre, 101 Town Centre Blvd., Main Floor).

### Where can I get more information on the Official Plan?

**Website:** Visit [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca) (Click on Draft Official Plan under Markham News) to get more information on all our background studies, past consultation and more.

or

**Phone:** 905-477-7000  
Marg Wouters, Senior Manager, Policy and Research (ext. 2909)  
Teema Kanji, Senior Project Coordinator, Policy and Research (ext. 4480)

**Email:** [officialplan@markham.ca](mailto:officialplan@markham.ca)

or

**Please forward your comments to** the Clerk's Department at the address noted above or by email to [judycarroll@markham.ca](mailto:judycarroll@markham.ca) by not later than 4:30 p.m. **Friday, November 2, 2012**, if you want your comments received by the Development Services Committee at this public meeting. Comments submitted after this date will be received by Council at a later date.

### If you wish to be notified of Markham Council's decision on the Draft Official Plan

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan, or the refusal of a request to amend the Official Plan, you must make a written request to the Clerk's Department at the address above or by email to [judycarroll@markham.ca](mailto:judycarroll@markham.ca)

**If you wish to be notified of upcoming meetings** related to the Draft Official Plan, please make a written request to the Clerk's Department at the address above, or by email to [judycarroll@markham.ca](mailto:judycarroll@markham.ca).

### Please take notice that

If you disagree with a decision of Council, you have the right to appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). However, the OMB can dismiss all or part of your appeal if you do not participate in the consultation process and provide your comments to Council.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Council of the City of Markham before the proposed Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal a decision of The Regional Municipality of York (the approval authority) to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Council of the City of Markham before the proposed Official Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

### Personal Information Collection Notice

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended. The names of persons providing submissions, and all submissions may become part of a public record, and may be used by the City of Markham for future notification as part of the Official Plan Review process.

**DATED October 11, 2012**

Frank Scarpitti  
Mayor

Jim Baird, MCIP, RPP  
Commissioner of Development Services