



ARECA
(Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association)
www.areca.info

ARECA goes for a walk in the park.

On Saturday June 16 at 11 am, ARECA will conduct a "community walk", starting at the Post Office site at Yonge and Montgomery. As a group we will puzzle together the pieces of the 2-mile wide park strategy we outlined in the "ARECA Statement" recently presented at the Ontario Municipal Board. The plan to improve where we live connects and collects the open space inventory between Marshall McLuhan, Eglinton Park, North Toronto and Northern Collegiate. Our vision is to improve our parkland and convert our streets into 'Street Parks'. ARECA believes not enough attention is being paid to the public realm as the private realm intensifies.

Development pressure in Midtown has been significant, especially over the last 10 years. Over that period nothing significant has occurred in the public realm. Public safety at intersections is still a big concern and we are in dire need of a proper traffic study with recommendations. Our sidewalks, parks and open spaces have all suffered as more and more residents come into our community. This is why we are so supportive of the 'Eglinton Midtown Plan'. ARECA sees the Plan as the only way to relieve the pressure of intensification on the public realm. Through the 'Eglinton Midtown Plan', local residents have been able to draw attention to the long neglected quality of life and public safety issues where they live. **We hope you can join us on June 16th at 11am to work with ARECA on some good community-based planning.**

TTC Crosstown Station at Avenue Road

ARECA understands that the TTC has designated the future LRT Station at Eglinton and Avenue Road as "minor". We do not believe such decisions should be made in advance of any community consultation. We will be making that point at the upcoming Crosstown Meeting. We have already submitted our concept ideas for a more-than-minor station at what will be an important transportation node for our community.

Development Proposal for Helendale at Yonge St.

Application has been made for a development on Helendale at Yonge. ARECA has contacted the Toronto North District Community Planning Department and arranged to review the development proposal with the planner on the file. The Yonge/Helendale site under the Official Plan is expected to intensify and ARECA will be, once again, in the community's corner. Primarily, our focus will be on what we can expect to see by way of community benefits, public safety and how traffic will flow. A second development application, this time on Yonge at Helendale, is expected soon. ARECA believes it is

time the block within which these two applications reside should be reviewed in its entirety. News has also been trickling-down about redevelopment possible at the corner of Eglinton and Henning. With this much intensification it is important that we have a comprehensive plan for the area and a good planning outcome for the public realm. As councillors, planners and developers all fight over Height and Density, all too often local residents and their needs are side-lined.

A big shout-out to The Town Crier.

ARECA's column about the problems associated with large in-fill housing next to lower-scale bungalows was read by one interested resident who used the information to negotiate a settlement. The next door developer at the Committee of Adjustment agreed to supply a high-efficiency furnace and a chimney extension to overcome the problem. The expensive solution owes much to community newspapers and community leadership.

ARECA is a volunteer community association representing the views of residents in matters that affect our community in North Toronto. ARECA represents the area bounded by Eglinton Avenue West, Yonge Street, Roselawn Avenue, Avenue Road, St Clements Avenue and Chaplin Road. If you live in the ARECA area please join your community association. To join send a cheque for \$20 (\$10 seniors) for your 2012 membership, along with your name, address and phone number and email address to Avenue Road Eglinton Community Association, c/o Membership Secretary 23 Elwood Boulevard, Toronto M4R 1B8. Note if you wish to receive fax or email updates from ARECA please include these with your membership details or email us at information@areca.info.