Community Safety
Remains Town’s Number One Priority

Since 2007, the Town of Ajax has been working diligently and collaboratively with community partners on numerous community safety strategies, including the development of the Town’s first Community Safety Strategy. The plan outlines a number of initiatives that continue to strengthen our community. Below is a summary of some projects undertaken to date.

1. Quality of Life Survey
In 2008, more than 6,000 Ajax residents provided input on important community safety issues and quality of life attributes. The survey made a variety of recommendations which included creating opportunities for neighbours to build connections with one another, working with local media to profile the positive contributions of youth in Ajax, working in partnership with community leaders to increase programs and services for children, youth and families, facilitating opportunities for residents to create their own neighbourhood initiatives, and increasing cultural training for service providers.

2. Youth Inclusion Pilot Project (YIP)
Community partners, including the Durham District School Board, Durham Catholic District School Board, Durham Region Police Service, and the Town of Ajax developed a unique program in 2008 to support youth at J. Clarke Richardson and Notre Dame high schools. A Youth Advocate was hired to work with youth who were experiencing challenges in academic success and/or making positive life choices. The eight month pilot concluded in February 2001. Community partners are exploring long term funding opportunities to continue the program.

3. Heritage Park Redevelopment
The Town helped form a neighbourhood committee in Heritage Park in 2009 to build community initiatives. Successful projects included the formation of a Neighbourhood Watch group, development of a three-year park improvement plan; and introduction of new community programs.

4. Anti-bullying Program
The Town secured five corporate sponsors to support an anti-bullying program in all Ajax elementary schools starting in 2008. Corporate sponsors include Veridian Connections, MeadWestVaco, Mr. Lube, Corporate Contracting Services, and Nokia.

5. After School Program
Through a collaborative effort between the Town, Durham District School Board, the Ministry of Health Promotion and the Eastview Boys and Girls Club, after school programs are now running at Bolton C. Falby and Terry Fox elementary schools.

6. Neighbourhood BBQ’s

For more information about the Town’s Community Safety Strategy, call 905-619-3529, ext. 3331 or email marilou.murray@townofajax.com.

What’s Inside
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• Building Activity in Ajax Is Up
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Ajax Downs Slot Revenue @ Work in Ajax
The Town’s share of the Ajax Downs slot revenue (approximately 5% of the total revenue) has and continues to provide funding for many capital projects throughout the Town. In many cases, the funding of a project has been viewed forward (e.g. Commercial Avenue Extension). Other projects simply could not have been undertakings without the slot revenue (e.g. Shelly Road Widening and Employment Land Servicing). Some of the most significant projects include:

- **2006-2009**
  - **Project**
  - **Slots Funding**
  - New Operations Centre
  - $2,000,000
  - Road Resurfacing and Reconstruction
  - $1,510,000
  - Commercial Avenue Extension
  - $1,668,000
  - Shelly Road Widening and Employment Land Servicing
  - $2,300,000
  - New Fire Headquarters/Training Facility
  - $560,000

- **2010**
  - **Project**
  - **Slots Funding**
  - Various City Infrastructure
  - $1,719,000

- **2011-2014**
  - **Project**
  - **Slots Funding**
  - Ajaxy Recreation Centre
  - $4,120,000
  - Old Kingston Road Reconstruction
  - $2,370,000
  - Commercial Avenue Extension
  - $2,163,000
  - Folly Road Reconstruction
  - $1,183,000
  - Henderson Drive Reconstruction
  - $979,000
  - CPR Crossing Gates on Ajax Rd.
  - $200,000

How the Slot Revenue Keeps Your Taxes Low
One of the major objectives set by Council in 2005 was for the slot revenue to eliminate future tax rate increases. This has and continues to be accomplished in a number of ways:

- **2006 to 2014**
  - Borrowing the Town’s long term borrowing requirements. From 2006 is 2014, borrowing will be reduced by approximately $54 million. This strategy results in an interest saving of $4 million and avoids a 2% increase in taxes.
  - Funding the Town’s existing capital projects: e.g. $325,000 in Ajax Parking
  - Weighted between 2007 and 2010.
  - Providing funding for capital projects that would otherwise be paid for by property tax (see above list).

- **2011 to 2014**
  - Providing funding for capital projects that would otherwise be paid for by property tax (see above list).

- **2015 to 2018**
  - Providing funding for capital projects that would otherwise be paid for by property tax (see above list).

- **2019 to Present**
  - Providing funding for capital projects that would otherwise be paid for by property tax (see above list).

Published by The Corporation of the Town of Ajax
The old cliché is true; one vote can make a difference. There are over 70,000 eligible voters in Ajax - each with the ability to send a powerful message. Exercising your most fundamental right is the easiest way for you to shape how your Town will be governed. On October 25, 2010 or during the advance voting period, do your part to keep democracy fit and exercise your right to vote – it matters!

For more information, contact Blair Labelle, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Returning Officer, at 905-619-2529, ext. 3342 or blair.labelle@townofajax.com.

Offices to be elected

• Mayor
• Regional Councillors (one for wards 1 and 2 and one for wards 3 and 4)
• Local Councillors (one for each of the Town’s 4 wards)
• Durham District School Board Trustees (one for wards 1 and 2 and one for wards 3 and 4)
• Durham Catholic District School Board Trustee (two to be elected)
• Conseil scolaire de district du Centre Sud-Ouest (one to be elected)
• Conseil scolaire de District Catholique Centre-Sud (one to be elected)

Voter qualifications
To be eligible to vote in the 2010 Municipal Election in Ajax you must be:

• at least 18 years of age
• a Canadian citizen
• a resident of the Town of Ajax or the owner or tenant of land in the Town of Ajax, or the spouse or partner of such owner or tenant

When you go to vote, please bring:

• Your voter notification card
• One piece of photo identification which verifies your name, age and qualifying address. Individuals can visit the Town of Ajax Web site to determine acceptable forms of ID

Voter Notification Cards
In October, every individual who is on the Voters’ List will receive a Voter Notification Card which provides information regarding voting opportunities. You must be on the Voters’ List in order to receive this information.

Am I on the Voters’ List?
The revision period (September 7 to October 25, 2010) provides an opportunity for eligible electors to ensure that their name is on the Voters’ List. Applications for the revision of the Voters’ List must be made in writing, using the prescribed form provided by the Town Clerk, and must be signed by the applicant. Copies of the Voters’ List will be available for supervised viewing at Town Hall starting on September 7, 2010 and online at www.townofajax.com.

Proxy voting
Proxy voting is commonly used in situations where an eligible elector is unable to vote in person due to illness, physical incapacity, or because he or she will be absent from Ajax during Advance Voting and also on Election Day. Proxy voting allows a qualified Town of Ajax elector to appoint another qualified Town of Ajax voter to vote on his or her behalf. An elector may only appoint one proxy. Voting proxy forms can be submitted in person at Town Hall from September 13, 2010 right up to Voting Day. The proxy form and further information can be accessed by visiting www.townofajax.com.

Take a Stand
It’s Your Right
It’s Your Future
It’s Your Neighbourhood
It’s Your Quality of Life
It’s Your Roads
It’s Your Parks
It’s Your Environment
It’s Your Say

Vote Early!
To ensure that there is ample opportunity for voter participation, an extensive advance voting period will be held during the month of October.

• October 9 & 10 from noon to 5 p.m. at MCC and ACC
• October 14 & 15 from 4 to 8 p.m. at MCC and ACC
• October 16 & 17 from noon to 5 p.m. at MCC and ACC
• October 18 & 19 from 4 to 8 p.m. at MCC and ACC

Don’t wait until Voting Day, vote early!
Town Approves First Diversity and Community Engagement Plan

At its meeting on June 28, 2010, Ajax Council approved the Town's first Diversity and Community Engagement Plan to build greater awareness and understanding of the value and strength diversity brings to our community. The plan, developed in collaboration with the community, recommends the following:

- undertaking a review of Town policies and practices, using a diversity lens, to ensure that there are no conditions which create disadvantages to residents and/or staff;
- ensuring employment practices are in place which result in a workforce more reflective of the diversity of the community;
- ensuring programs and services respond to the interests of a diverse population, including involving the community in establishing priorities and encouraging community organizations to deliver programs and services inclusively;
- engaging the broader community in Town decision making by encouraging participation on Town Advisory Committees, volunteering and formation of new community organizations; and
- building stronger and more cohesive neighbourhoods through a Neighbourhood Strengthening initiative.

Using Census and other demographic data related to the Town of Ajax and Durham Region, the following communities of interest were focused on in the development of this plan:

- Diverse and visible cultures
- Aboriginal residents
- Newcomers and immigrants
- Persons with disabilities
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community
- Women
- Persons of Low Income

The recommendations are phased over a five-year period. Plan is available at www.townofajax.com.

Get Involved in the St. Francis Community Giving Campaign

The Best Seat in the House Could Be Yours

The interior retrofit of the St. Francis Centre will get underway this summer... and now you can be part of the opening ACT!

The St. Francis Centre represents the first publicly owned and accessible heritage facility in Ajax that will combine heritage architecture and modern design to create an amazing new performing arts facility. Featuring a stage, retractable seating, catering kitchen and theatrical lighting and sound, the St. Francis Centre will be a place where residents, community groups and businesses will be able to meet, learn, celebrate and perform.

The Best Seat in the House could be yours!!

The Town of Ajax invites you to become a permanent part of Ajax history by purchasing a seat in the main hall of the facility. Your $500 tax-deductible seat purchase entitles you to a recognition plaque placed on the armrest of the seat. It’s a great way to show your support for arts, culture and heritage in Ajax, and can make the perfect lasting gift for family and loved ones.

Friends of St. Francis

Become a part of this important group of community fundraisers. Help Town staff implement the “Best Seat in the House” campaign, or help secure corporate sponsorship. The Town will provide the necessary resources, training and assistance, to ensure the success of this initiative.

For more information on the ‘Best Seat in the House’ campaign or the Friends of St. Francis, call 905-619-2529, ext. 7241 or email robert.gruber@townofajax.com.

I CAN... Get Active With Walking!

Newcomers to Canada Walking Together

The Newcomers to Canada Walking Together Group is designed for newcomers to Canada living in and around Ajax who are interested in walking, being more active and meeting new friends.

Mondays, 9 to 10 a.m., Carruthers Marsh Pavilion (Audley Road South and Ashbury Boulevard)

Wednesdays, 6 to 7 p.m., Ajax Sportsplex Park entrance (Audley Road North and Taunton Road)

Fridays, 1 to 2 p.m., McLean Community Centre (95 Magill Dr.)

Ajax Volunteer Recognition Awards

Celebrating the Gems of Our Community

Like the precious ruby, the rare sapphire or the multi-faceted diamond, volunteers demonstrate the important and vital qualities that build a caring and vibrant community.

On April 22, 2010, in conjunction with National Volunteer Week, the Town of Ajax honoured the achievements and contributions of community volunteers and volunteer organizations who, through their time, talent and dedication, have helped to make Ajax a great place to live, work and play.

The following is a list of this year’s “gems” who have helped to create a better community for all Ajax residents.

Ajax Civic Awards:
- Adult - Patricia Clark
- Youth - Waled Nusrat

Ajax Senior of the Year Award:
- Donna Frankum

Community Awards:
- Accessibility Award - Sigongni Sivarajah
- Arts & Culture Award – Friends of the Ajax Public Library
- Community Safety Award – Safe Communities of Pickering & Ajax
- Diversity & Community Engagement Award - Women’s Multicultural Resource & Counselling Centre of Durham
- Environment Award – Ajax Trails Committee
- Recreation Award – Don Miller

Good Neighbour Awards:
- Thiviyath Pudalapai - Ward 1
- Marc Burralde - Ward 1
- Susan Whittle - Ward 2
- Jana Komisar - Ward 4
- Kumaren Manarroo - Ward 4

For more information, contact Megan Cramer, Community Development Council Durham, at 905-686-2661, ext. 115 or email megan.cramer@townofajax.com.

St. Francis Centre

for Community, Arts & Culture

SUMMER 2010 3
Ajax Sets the PACE in Business Environmental Leadership

As an ISO certified municipality, and at the forefront of a number of environmental issues, the Town demonstrates leadership in the combination of supporting business and sustainable energy by:

**Investment in renewable technologies:**
- The first municipality in Durham Region to construct a LEED Fire Headquarters
- LEED Operations Centre that includes a comprehensive solar design
- LEED community pavilion
- Support for a growing number of private sector LEED initiatives

**Business support and education to increase awareness and industry growth:**
- Collaborating and supporting the redevelopment of the Ajax Steam Plant into a renewable district energy resource
- Solar Industry Roundtable to identify needs and opportunities for solar application
- Solar ‘FIT’ Workshop for businesses to assist with implementation of solar projects
- “Green” policy work to support solar and renewable system implementation

**Setting the example of energy and environmental stewardship:**
- Implementing a ‘Green Fleet’ strategy
- Implementing an ‘Urban Forest’ strategy
- Implementing the ‘Idle-Free’ zones through collaboration with local businesses

**Quality of Life for current and potential employees living and working in the Town:**
- Developing a comprehensive trail system that supports active modes of transportation
- Preserving key natural heritage resources such as the Ajax Waterfront and Greenwood Conservation Area

To continue setting the pace, the Town is focused on being progressive through the attraction and retention of businesses in the renewable energy sector; accountable by continuing to set the example by utilizing and maximizing renewable energy technologies; community-focused through encouraging residents and businesses to adopt and embrace renewable energy; and environmentally-friendly by continuing to support and promote efforts that preserve the environment.

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**INNOVATION + TALENT + QUALITY OF PLACE = JOBS**

The Town’s new Economic Development and Tourism Strategy is taking a new approach to business attraction and retention. This new approach puts INNOVATION + TALENT + QUALITY OF PLACE at the forefront of economic development programming in an effort to attract high value, sustainable employment and investment.

While the traditional models of investment attraction — INDUSTRIAL RECRUITMENT + SITES remain viable, Ajax is well positioned to benefit from the economic development and tourism approach of larger jurisdictions (i.e. Region of Durham) and better capitalize on the strengths and talent of its workforce and the unique community assets that contribute to the Town’s quality of life experience of its residents.

The new 10-year strategy identifies six goals for improving Ajax’s position as an ideal location for business and entrepreneurship. These goals include:

1. **Attract targeted sector business and investment**
2. **Leverage regional assets and advance business networking, investment and innovation**
3. **Drive business growth through support and engagement**
4. **Create ‘places’ and demonstrate the diverse range of arts and culture experiences**
5. **Profile, promote and encourage the creative industries**
6. **Enhance and broaden marketing and promotion**

For more information on the new Economic Development and Tourism Strategy, visit www.firstforbusiness.ca.

**Businesses continue to discover the Ajax advantage**

Through April 2010, construction value has reached more than $4.6 million for new industrial and commercial facilities in Ajax. This strong investment in the local economy is being made by both existing businesses needing to expand and by new companies that have made the decision to relocate to Ajax.

- **Acoustex Inc.**
  - McMaster Ave.
  - Will employ up to 180 employees
- **Pharmaceutical Advertising Advisory Board**
  - 113 Old Kingston Rd.
  - Will employ 15 employees
- **Loblaw**
  - Bayly St.
  - Expanding to employ up to an additional 90 employees
- **Unistrut**
  - 585 Finley Ave.
  - Expanding to employ up to an additional 50 employees
In March, 2010, the Region of Durham, with the support of many community partners, launched a new immigration portal. The portal is a one-stop, community-based immigration Web site, designed to welcome, support, attract and retain skilled newcomers, newcomer entrepreneurs, businesses and other new Canadians to the Durham Region.

The site includes the following topic areas:

- **Life in Durham** – includes weather, demographics, history, immigration stories, healthcare, transportation, fun activities, arts, food, and parks/trails.
- **Working in Durham** – includes local labour market, employment statistics, wage rates, help finding work, overcoming barriers and professional associations.
- **Learning in Durham** – includes information on education programs such as English as a second language, continuing education programs, and bridging education.
- **Business in Durham** – includes starting your own business, economic climate, business and economic news, associations, and success stories.
- **Settling in Durham** – includes overview of the Region, first few days / weeks, finding a home, getting around, local services and attractions, and volunteering.
- **Inclusive Communities** – includes tourism, volunteer, cultural communities, faith communities, rural communities, how to get involved and events.

Although the portal was developed specifically for newcomers, it’s an excellent resource for those who happen to be new to the Region. For more information visit [www.durhamimmigration.ca](http://www.durhamimmigration.ca).

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**New Immigration Portal Launched**

**Vandemeeer Farmers Market is Now Open!**

The Town of Ajax is happy to announce that a Farmers Market will be operating in the parking lot of Vandermeer Nursery (380 Lakeridge Rd.) every Thursday from 2 to 7 p.m. for the duration of the summer. Be sure to visit and stock up on local produce from in and around Durham Region! The market promises to provide great assortment of fruits, vegetables, meats and unique delicacies grown and made right in your backyard. For more information, call Vandermeer Nursery at 905-391-0818.

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**New Library Master Plan Underway**

It is anticipated that the Town of Ajax will experience rapid growth over the next 10 to 20 years. As a community resource, the Ajax Public Library will play a significant role in welcoming and accommodating the information expectations of its current and new residents.

In order to ensure a mix of library resources to meet future community needs, the Ajax Public Library is developing a Master Plan. The results will lead to a framework, with practical steps, to create the Library of the Future that will meet the needs of the residents until 2035.

**What has been accomplished so far?**

The master plan consulting team has collected relevant data about the community through the review of national and local census information and other Town studies. The team has also consulted broad public consultations. The feedback from all stakeholders has been informative. Constructive comments and have been made about Library hours, locations, facilities, technology, collections and programs.

To provide input into the Library’s Master Plan, please contact the project leader Peggy Walshe of Libraries in Transition at peggy.walshe@sympatico.ca.

Operational reviews of library programs and services will continue through the summer and fall of 2010. The final report, including implementation plans, will be published in November 2010.

For more information, call 905-683-4000, ext. 8825 or email donna.bright@townofajax.com.
Citizen Advisory Committees play a valuable role in the Town of Ajax. Council relies on Advisory Committees to provide insight and recommendations on emerging issues, policies and programs while also drawing upon the expertise of its volunteer members, who are also residents of the Town. Advisory Committee members act as community ambassadors and assist with the primary role of enhancing citizen and public involvement by providing input to Council. Over the past two years, the advisory committees have participated in a broad range of activities and achievements.

For further information regarding Town of Ajax Advisory Committees, please contact Sarah Moore, Acting Committee Coordinator, at 905-619-2529, ext. 3347 or by email at sarah.moore@townofajax.com.

The following presents a description of each committee’s mandate as well as a summary of major achievements:

**Accessibility Advisory Committee**

The Town of Ajax is committed to providing accessibility to its citizens, through the requirements and in the spirit of the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001 (ODA) and Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA). The Town’s Accessibility Advisory Committee provides regular advice to Council with respect to site plans for new and existing municipal buildings, significant renovations to Town facilities and the annual Accessibility Plan. The Committee also plays a significant role in providing regular input on Town policies and programs as well as consulting with the community, stakeholder groups and organizations to identify and respond to emerging issues.

The Accessibility Advisory Committee has helped create an Accessible Customer Service Program in response to the requirements of the AODA, as well as monitored the development of the forthcoming AODA standards. The Committee has also provided input on the Town’s Annual Accessibility Plan and provided input on the construction of various Town facilities, including the St. Francis Centre, Fire and Emergency Services Headquarters, the Greenwood and Carruthers Marsh Pavilions. The Accessibility Advisory Committee also participated in Durham’s first Accessibility Expo held at Durham College on June 17, 2010.

**Diversity and Community Engagement Advisory Committee**

The Town of Ajax is a diverse and vibrant community that continues to flourish. The Diversity and Community Engagement Advisory Committee is responsible for engaging residents and implementing measures to connect them with their respective communities and the Town as a whole. The Committee works actively to formulate and recommend opportunities to enhance community relations and inclusiveness, while embracing our diversity. Working with Council and staff, the Committee provides solutions on how to connect neighbourhoods and ensure equal participation in Town events and programming.

The Diversity and Community Engagement Advisory Committee contributed comments on various policy initiatives such as the Community Safety Strategy and the Town of Ajax Strategic Plan. The Committee has also consulted with Durham Region Police Services regarding community outreach initiatives. The committee is currently involved with the development of the Town of Ajax Corporate Diversity and Community Engagement Plan and has also provided feedback on various community initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Events Toolkit and Regional diversity web portal: www.durhamimmigration.ca.

**Environmental Advisory Committee**

Environmental issues are of particular importance within the Town of Ajax, as development and preservation of natural areas continue to be weighed in a delicate balance. The Environmental Advisory Committee’s role is to promote the preservation, conservation and enhancement of all aspects of the environment in order to improve the quality of life for those who live and work in Ajax. The Committee provides advice on Town policies relating to environmental issues and assists by increasing awareness with respect to programming and regulations that support environmental sustainability.

The Environmental Advisory Committee has been involved in several major initiatives, including the Ajax Tap Into It and the Idle Free: Every Minute Counts campaigns. Members have also actively participated in Ajax Green Living Days, various tree planting and anti-litter events, and provided input on the Town’s Official Plan Amendment Policies, the Stream Plant revitalization proposal and Provincial pesticide legislation. The Committee regularly consults with Toronto Region Conservation Authority with respect to environmental stewardship opportunities and has created a Town Bird Species list.
Heritage Advisory Committee

The Town of Ajax has a very unique and rich history. The Heritage Advisory Committee is responsible for the promotion and preservation of local history, including natural, cultural, and architectural heritage. The mandate of the Committee includes the preservation of historical information, artifacts, sites and architecture. The Committee is also responsible for the review and recommendation of heritage designation applications for various properties within the Town.

The Heritage Advisory Committee has completed a heritage designation for several properties including Friend's Cemetery, 33 Roosevelt, and the MacKay House. Members have provided input on the restoration of the St. Francis Centre as well as the formal establishment of the Ajax Archives. The Committee looks forward to its participation in the first ever Doors Open Ajax event to be held September 18, 2010, when residents and visitors are invited to explore several heritage sites throughout the Town.

Recreation, Arts & Culture Advisory Committee

The Recreation, Arts & Culture Advisory Committee serves to strengthen opportunities in the delivery of initiatives relating to sports, arts and culture, general leisure programming and services for all residents of Ajax. The Committee serves as an advisory body to Council and works in conjunction with staff on matters pertaining to the effective and efficient delivery of services, facilities, programs, and special events.

The Recreation, Arts & Culture Advisory Committee regularly reviews policy initiatives such as the Integrated Community, Arts and Cultural Plan and the Community Safety Strategy and recently, the Youth Spaces Feasibility Study. The Committee provided input on the development of various Town facilities including the Audley Recreation Centre, the revitalization of the Memorial outdoor pool and the St. Francis Centre. It is the committee’s ongoing commitment to promote public awareness and understanding of arts and culture and related programs and services, such as annual festivals and events like the Festival of the Arts, Celebrate Ajax and Ajax Doors Open 2010.

Attending advisory committee meetings is an excellent way to learn about various initiatives undertaken by the Town. Meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. Information on meeting schedules, agendas, minutes and committee mandates is available by visiting www.townofajax.com.

Youth Engagement Committee

In November, 2007, Ajax Council approved the establishment of a Youth Engagement Committee (YEC). The aim of the committee is to increase the skills and leadership capacity of Ajax youth and provide them with opportunities for growth and civic engagement.

Since the committee was formed, the group has been a part of a number of Town corporate initiatives, including the Recreation and Culture Master Plan, Youth Spaces Study, along with annual updates to Council.

Recently, the Youth Engagement Committee partnered with a number of youth agencies during Youth Week (May 1 to 8) to reach out to youth. Partners included The Youth Centre, Girls Inc., Northern Lights Canada, and Community Development Council of Durham. This year’s Youth Week activities included a number of free to low cost activities which included a Dodgeball Tournament, Black Light Dance, Drop-in Basketball, Break Dancing, Badminton and more. National Youth Week is dedicated to the celebration of youth and their active participation in their community.

For more information on the Youth Engagement Committee, call 905-619-2529, ext. 7508 or email robert.prochilo@townofajax.com.

Front Row L-R: Ron White, Suzanne Ouellette (Committee Chair), Karren Volante, Wlodek Zarew (staff); Back Row L-R: Brenda Kie (staff), Valerie Silveria, Beverley Dingus, Antonella Inglesi-Grossi, Keith Bachmeier; Absent from photo: Councillor Joanne Dies, Alan Mergens.

Front Row L-R: Councillor Joanne Dies, Jessica Black (Committee Chair), Theresa Hock, Josh Row L-R: Jeremy Bachmeier, Gilbert Estridge, Robert Gruber (staff); Absent from photo: Wanda Muir, Natasha Pierre.

Front Row L-R: Kristelle Jadoo, Jahmal Gittens, Breyan Sinnott, Jordan Tapper, Hannah Maracle; Back Row L-R: Howie Dayton (staff), Brian Skinner (staff), Robbie Prochilo (staff), Honourable Margarett Best, Catherine Spagnuolo, Toni Grant, Mayor Steve Parish, Linda Cork (staff). Picture was taken at a reception held at Queen's Park in October, 2009 to recognize Ajax as a Youth Friendly Community.
**Steps For Safe Barbecuing**

Barbecue season is finally here! But before you fire up the grill, there are a few things to watch out for when cooking outdoors so that you enjoy yourself and stay safe. Whether you have a propane, charcoal or electric grill, Ajax Fire and Emergency Services have safety tips for all outdoor chefs.

**BEFORE YOU GET STARTED**

- Check your grill thoroughly for leaks, cracking or brittleness before using it.
- Clean out the tubes that lead into the burner.
- Make sure the grill is at least 10 feet away from your house, garage or trees.
- Store and use your grill on a flat, level surface that is protected (i.e. - concrete or asphalt).
- Don’t use grills in a garage, porch, deck or on top of anything that can catch on fire.
- Keep children away from fires and grills. It is a good idea to establish a safety zone around the grill and instruct children to remain outside the zone. A chalk line works great for this purpose.

**PROPANE GRILLS**

- Check the tubes leading to the burner regularly.
- Make sure the grill is at least 10 feet away from your basement apartment.
- Due to the production of carbon monoxide when charcoal is burned, charcoal grills should not be used inside homes, garages, vehicles, tents, or campers, even if ventilation is provided. Carbon monoxide is odorless and colourless, so you will not be alerted to the danger until it is too late.
- Never use any flammable liquid other than barbecue starter fluid to start a charcoal barbecue.
- Never add fire starter after you have started your barbecue to speed a slow fire. Fire starter can cause a flashback along the liquid’s path to the container in your hands.
- When using a charcoal grill, keep the charcoal ashes from the grill and place them into a metal container with a tight-fitting metal lid. Add and mix water with the ashes, and set aside for several days.
- Always soak coals with water after cooking; they retain their heat for long periods of time.
- Only get propane from approved compressed gas suppliers.
- Due to the production of carbon monoxide when charcoal is burned, charcoal grills should not be used inside homes, garages, vehicles, tents, or campers, even if ventilation is provided. Carbon monoxide is odorless and colourless, so you will not be alerted to the danger until it is too late.
- Never use any flammable liquid other than barbecue starter fluid to start a charcoal barbecue.
- Never add fire starter after you have started your barbecue to speed a slow fire or rekindle a dying fire.
- The flame can easily flashback along the fluid’s path to the container in your hands.
- Use the starter fluid sparingly and never put it on an open flame.
- Remove the charcoal ashes from the grill and place them into a metal container with a tight-fitting metal lid. Add and mix water with the ashes, and set aside for several days.
- Always soak coals with water after cooking; they retain their heat for long periods of time.
- Keep damp or wet coals in a well ventilated area. During the drying process, spontaneous combustion can occur in confined areas.

**ELECTRIC GRILLS**

- Do NOT use any flammable liquid to start an electric grill.
- Follow the manufacturer’s instructions in the use of an electric grill.
- When using an electrical extension cord, make sure it is properly rated for the amperage required for the electric grill. Otherwise you could risk an electric fire.

For more information on barbecue safety, contact the Fire Prevention & Public Safety Division by e-mail (Kevin. vaughan@townofajax.com or robbie.lee@townofajax.com) or by phone at 905-683-4481.

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**Building a Safe Basement Apartment**

Looking to expand your home and invite a basement tenant? Although basement apartments are not required to be registered within the Town of Ajax, it is the building owner’s responsibility to ensure that the structure complies with the Ontario Fire Code or Ontario Building Code.

If you own an existing two-unit home or are considering creating a completely separate basement apartment, Ajax Fire and Emergency Services recommends the following checklist be followed:

1. **Do you have a permit?** Basement apartments that have been constructed illegally without a permit pose a safety risk to the occupants and to the community in general.
2. **Are your utility connections safe?**
3. **Do you have enough fire exits?**
4. **Do you have proper firewalls?**
5. **Do you have the required amount of smoke alarms?**
6. **Have you arranged for an inspection? Have peace of mind knowing your basement apartment meets the minimum for fire and life safety requirements.**

Call the Ajax Fire Prevention & Public Safety Division to arrange an inspection to ensure you and your loved ones are safe in your home. For more information on basement apartments within the Town of Ajax, contact the Fire Prevention & Public Safety Division by e-mail (greg.deman@townofajax.com or robbie.lee@townofajax.com)

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**Walkable + Bikeable Ajax**

To solidify Ajax as a truly livable community.

In March 2013, Laude compiled a Neighbourhood and Bicycle Master Plan to improve the Town’s transportation network for the 21st century. The plan includes: 1) an increased network of streets and sidewalks, 2) a bicycle and pedestrian network, and 3) a plan for an expanded transportation network.

**Goals of plan**

- To create a compact, mixed-use Town.
- To create a walkable and bikeable community.
- To promote walking and cycling as transportation alternatives.
- To foster a sense of community development and livability.
- To maintain pedestrian and public safety.

**The plan includes:**

- Neighbourhood improvements
- Expanded bicycle and pedestrian network
- Implementation of new streets
- Implementation of new sidewalks
- Implementation of new bike lanes
- Improved access to public transit
- New streetlights

**We believe**

Walking and cycling infrastructure, and vibrant public spaces are key to creating a more people-oriented community.

**Improvements to Town’s transportation network 2010 to 2014**

<table>
<thead>
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<td>30</td>
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**Towpath**

Towpath: a fenced-in area along the Tamworth Trail from the Tamworth Trailhead Picnic Area to the Tamworth Trailhead Picnic Area. The towpath is the Town of Ajax’s 10th anniversary gift to the community. The towpath provides a safe, accessible route for cyclists and pedestrians.

**Core Trail**

The Core Trail is a multi-use trail that connects the Town of Ajax with the City of Ajax. The Core Trail is a 6.4-kilometre-long, paved trail that runs from the Town of Ajax Civic Centre to the Ajax Community Centre. The Core Trail is open to cyclists, pedestrians, and people using mobility devices.

**Mark Ireland Trail**

The Mark Ireland Trail is a 3.5-kilometre-long, multi-use trail that connects the Town of Ajax with the City of Ajax. The Mark Ireland Trail is a paved trail that runs from the Town of Ajax Civic Centre to the Ajax Community Centre. The Mark Ireland Trail is open to cyclists, pedestrians, and people using mobility devices.

**Coral Trail**

The Coral Trail is a 2.5-kilometre-long, multi-use trail that connects the Town of Ajax with the City of Ajax. The Coral Trail is a paved trail that runs from the Town of Ajax Civic Centre to the Ajax Community Centre. The Coral Trail is open to cyclists, pedestrians, and people using mobility devices.

**Towpath Trail**

The Towpath Trail is a 1.5-kilometre-long, multi-use trail that connects the Town of Ajax with the City of Ajax. The Towpath Trail is a paved trail that runs from the Town of Ajax Civic Centre to the Ajax Community Centre. The Towpath Trail is open to cyclists, pedestrians, and people using mobility devices.
Music in the Square
Wednesdays - 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Ajax Town Hall, Heritage Square
(65 Harwood Ave. S.)
- A Roy L Tribute - A Tribute to Elvis Presley
  - July 14
- A Tribute to Billy Joel featuring Jeff Brewer
  - July 28
- Practically Hip - A Tribute to the Tragically Hip
  - August 11
- Northern Harbour - A Tribute to J Immy Buffett
  - August 25

Kids in the Square
Wednesdays - 7 to 8 p.m.
Ajax Town Hall, Heritage Square
(65 Harwood Ave. S.)
- Splash N’ Boots - July 7
- Rick & Terry J ust for Kids - July 21
- Craig Douglas Comedy & Juggling Show
  - August 4
- Groovy Toons - August 18
- Camp Rock Revisited - A Tribute to the Jonas Brothers, Hannah Montana & Demi Lovato
  - July 22

Movies in the Park
Movies begin at DUSK (approximately 9 p.m.). Movie titles will be announced on Town’s Web site.
- Ajax Sportplex (Audley Road & Taunton Road)
  - July 22
- Rotary Park (Lake Driveway) - August 7

Theatre in the Park
Jul y 15, 7:30 p.m.
Rotary Park
William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night, presented by The Driftwood Theatre Group.
Admission is pay what you can.

FREE Family Fitness
Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Ajax Town Hall, 65 Harwood Ave. S.
- Family Kickboxing - July 8
- Family Soccacize - July 15
- Family Zumba - July 22
- Family BootCamp - July 29
- Family Fitness Challenge - August 5
- Family Kickboxing - August 19

Celebrate Ajax by the Lake
- WALK IT! RIDE IT! SEE IT ALL!
August 7, noon to 4 p.m.
Ajax Waterfront
Experience Ajax’s waterfront like never before with activities and events taking place at various locations along the waterfront.
- Camphers Marsh Pavilion
- Waterfront Games
- Children’s Activities

Veteran’s Point
- Discover Ajax’s rich history through a variety of interactive naval and heritage displays
- Lion’s Point
- Kite Flying Demonstrations
- Kite Making

Rotary Park
- Sample fare from local restaurants
- Live entertainment
- Movie in the Park

Pumpkinville (Fall Event)
October 16, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Greenwood Conservation Area
Brave the Haunted House, take in a ride on a Horse Drawn Wagon, wander through the pumpkin patch or get creative in the Family Pumpkin Carving Contest. Leave the driving and parking to us - take the FREE Shuttle!

Library Events

SUMMER 2010 9

All festivals and events are FREE admission unless noted. Nominal fees apply for some attractions, food and parking. For complete details, visit the Town’s online calendar events portal at www.townofajax.com/page27.aspx.
Building Activity in Ajax is Up

Town Leading the Way in New Infrastructure in the Region

From residential homes to multi-residential units to commercial developments to Town infrastructure projects, Ajax is bustling with construction activity. Construction activity is important as it plays a powerful role in sustaining economic growth and providing for much needed new infrastructure in a growing community. Below is a snapshot of some of the Town’s notable projects.

Sundial Homes - Mulberry Meadows Development
Location: Rossland Road and Audley Road
Fast facts: 67 hectare site, 1,420 single and live/work units
Expected completion date: End of 2015

Ajax Municipal Housing Corporation Apartment
Location: 90 Station St.
Fact facts: Six-storey, 84 unit apartment
Expected completion date: Winter 2010

Carruthers Creek Public School Expansion
Location: 1 Greenhalf Dr.
Fast facts: Two-storey, six classroom addition
Expected completion date: Fall 2010

Riocan Commercial Development
Location: Taunton Road and Ravenscroft Road
Fast facts: Nine building, 480,000 square foot development
Expected completion date: End of 2012

Operations and Environmental Centre
Location: 800 Salem Rd. N.
Fast facts: 70 square foot, LEED designed building with integrated solar system
Expected completion date: Winter 2010

St. Francis Centre
Location: 78 Church St.
Fast facts: Multi-functional performing arts venue
Expected completion date: Spring 2011

Outdoor Memorial Pool Retrofit
Location: Ajax Town Hall, 65 Harwood Ave. S.
Fast facts: New pool, change areas and splash pad
Expected completion date: Summer 2011

Audley Recreation Centre - First Phase
Location: Audley Road and Taunton Road
Fast facts: Six-lane pool, gymnasium, community space, LEED designed
Expected completion date: Spring 2012

Old Post Inn Exterior Restoration – oldest building in Ajax
Location: 356 Kingston Rd. E.
Fast facts: New foundation, brick work and decking
Expected completion date: Winter 2010

In the Spotlight

Ajax GO Station Revitalization Projects

New GO Transit Parking Garage
GO Transit is planning to build a six-storey parking garage to alleviate existing parking limitations at the Ajax GO station. The parking structure will be built adjacent to the station within the northwest corner of the site. The structure will add 1,000 new parking spaces (the structure will have approximately 1,300 total parking spaces). Since the parking structure will be constructed on approximately 300 existing parking spaces, an overflow parking lot is being planned to replace the spaces occupied during construction. Also, the parking improvement project includes signalization of Westney Road and O’Brien Court, and a new access road – with access to the overflow parking – to improve traffic flow in and out of the station. Construction is expected to commence in late 2010 and is scheduled for completion in 2012.

Expanded Durham Region Bus Depot
Durham Region Transit has approved plans to expand their bus depot located at the Ajax GO station. Expanding this facility is an integral component of the Highway 2 Bus Rapid Transit Service. After the expansion, the facility would be able to accommodate approximately 100 buses. Construction is expected to commence in July, 2010 and is scheduled for completion in September, 2011.

Fairall Street Reconstruction
The reconstruction of Fairall Street is required to address major deficiencies within the roadway, and improve traffic flow between Westney Road and Harwood Avenue. The first phase of the reconstruction project, which started in May, 2010, includes the full reconstruction of Fairall Street, including the replacement of the storm sewer and watermain, and the provision of bicycle lanes. Due to the importance of this roadway to transit, truck routes and commuter traffic, the reconstruction of Fairall Street will be staged to allow for a possible second phase which will include the construction of a new road section to realign Fairall Street to Station Street.

2010 Major Road Construction Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Expected Completion Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design for the reconstruction of Old Kingston Road, including replacement of storm sewer, curbs and sidewalk.</td>
<td>June 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design for a new bridge structure and road connection for Chambers Drive across Carruthers Creek.</td>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design for the widening of Harwood Avenue from west of Woodcock Drive to Notre Dame Catholic School.</td>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Expected Completion Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Widening of Salmon Road from 2 to 4 lanes from Rossland to CPR averages.</td>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconstruction of the final section of Hurricane Drive from Harwood Avenue to Salmon Road.</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconstruction of Hurricane Drive from north of Taunton Road to Wilkinson Avenue.</td>
<td>Summer 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction of a new concrete sidewalk on the west side of Audley Road from Taunton Road to Hurricane Drive.</td>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Placement of top asphalt on Salmon Road from Residential Road to Ranger Road.</td>
<td>Fall 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Town is in the process of completing its Official Plan Review process. The first phase, which was completed in 2008, resulted in more than 100 technical and minor changes. Also in 2008, the Town amended the official plan to incorporate new provincial regulations, requiring developers to “pre-consult” with Town staff on new applications, and to submit supporting documents and background studies.

The second phase, which started in late 2009, focuses on four key subject areas: transportation, residential intensification, environment and employment.

The transportation component (Vibrant Streets) was adopted by Council in April, 2010. The amendment incorporates the findings of the Town’s Transportation Master Plan and Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan, which provides new policies for transit, the road network, goods movement, active transportation and transportation demand management.

The residential intensification (Quality Places) review is nearing completion. It establishes five growth areas, including the Downtown, the Uptown (along Kingston Road), the Midtown (along Harwood Avenue), the vicinity of the Ajax GO Station, and along main arterial roads. New policies focus on accommodating future population growth in the Town, and strengthening urban design policies to ensure compatibility between new development and existing neighbourhoods.

The residential intensification plan calls for a future population of 127,670 by 2031 and establishes a growth target of approximately 8,000 new residential units between 2015 and 2031, with 54% of those units being allocated in the five growth areas.

The environment component (Protect > Enhance > Restore) takes a broad approach by recognizing the stresses imposed by climate change, the Town’s location in the broader Great Lakes Basin ecosystem, its location in the Duffins Creek, Carruthers Creek and Lynde Creek watersheds, and the dynamic characteristics of Lake Ontario and the waterfront. The review deals with both the natural and man-made (or “built”) environments and existing environmental conditions such as the quality and quantity of water resources, soil erosion and air quality. The proposed principles, goals, and policies centre on an action-oriented, “environment-first” framework that protects, enhances, and restores a connected and diverse ecosystem, and encourages development of a built environment that is sensitive to its surrounding natural environment.

The last part of the review focuses on Employment (Prosperous Economy), specifically strengthening policies to preserve employment lands for employment purposes. One of the proposed policies allows for limited retail uses on strategic employment sites, on the condition that the majority of the site is developed for higher paying employment uses (offices, manufacturing, etc.).

All of the proposed amendments will be sent to the Region of Durham for review and approval during the summer.

Protecting Our Employment Land

The Town places a high priority on the protection of its supply of employment land in order to preserve the long-term economic health and vitality of the municipality. Employment lands provide Ajax residents with high quality job opportunities, and reduce commuting distances to and from work.

In 2009, the Town initiated an Employment Land Strategy as part of the Official Plan Review (Ajax Forward: Prosperous Economy – Employment) to examine the employment land policies, including permitted land uses and urban design requirements, within the context of implementing the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe.

As part of the Employment Land Strategy, the Town retained Watson & Associates Economists Limited to prepare a Discussion Paper to review the existing conditions and employment policies for selected municipalities throughout the Greater Golden Horseshoe, global, regional and local economic trends; and provide an assessment of each of the Town’s employment areas. This background research and analysis has resulted in several preliminary recommendations for the Town’s consideration, such as:

- promote and encourage the long-term rehabilitation of the Central Employment Area (located south of Highway 401)
- introduce limited retail uses in strategic locations to promote employment growth
- prohibit particular freestanding forms of development such as personal service establishments, financial institutions, and restaurants in order to promote an urban streetscape along the Town’s arterial roads
- encourage employee intensive land uses in locations along major transit corridors

The final recommendations will be incorporated into the Town’s Official Plan Review, which is scheduled to be completed this summer. The recommendations will also be used by the Town’s Economic Development team to promote and encourage investment in Ajax.

Yellow Fish Road Program Comes to Ajax!

In most cities, water entering storm drains goes directly into local rivers, streams and lakes untreated. Storm drain pollution can harm fish and wildlife, as well as reduce water quality for consumption. To tackle this issue, the Town of Ajax and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority teamed up to bring the Yellow Fish Road Program to three schools in Ajax.

The program, offered to Grades 3 - 8, educates students and the public about the impacts of pollution entering urban storm drains. In addition, Yellow Fish Road volunteers paint “yellow fish” beside storm drains and distribute fish-shaped information flyers to nearby households. These activities remind people to properly use and safely dispose of hazardous household chemicals, rather than allowing these to enter curb side drains.

Southwood Public School kicked off the program on April 20, 2010 with 84 students and 16 volunteers by painting 133 storm drains and delivering 476 brochures. Carruthers Creek Public School followed on April 22, 2010 with 128 students and 25 volunteers painting 284 storm drains and delivering 1057 brochures. Wrapping up the program on April 23, 2010 was Duffins Bay Public School with 51 students and 15 volunteers painting 189 storm drains and delivering 826 brochures. A total of 277 volunteers participated in this event and delivered over 2,500 information flyers. Special thanks to all the principals, teachers, volunteers and students that made this event successful.
What is your favourite spot in Ajax?
The Ajax Community Centre because there is so much for my three children to do there. Rock climbing, swimming and skating indoors plus the soccer field and skate park outdoors!

Is there a service in Ajax that is special to you?
School House Play Care. This service is offered at my children’s school as well as other elementary schools in Ajax. The service provides day care before and after school.

Uncovering Historical Ajax
Uncovering Historical Ajax, a new portal on the Town of Ajax Web site, is full of information that highlights our heritage, including details on 20 homes designated under the Ontario Heritage Act; history on cemeteries and landmarks within the municipality; as well as maps, the Ajax Heritage Inventory, and the Pickering Village Walking Tour Brochure.

Coming this summer, Uncovering Historical Ajax will be the source for all information on Ajax’s first ever Doors Open event, happening September 18, 2010.

HST Reminder
Effective July 1, 2010, Town services that are currently subject to GST will be subject to HST. Services that are currently exempt from GST will also be exempt from HST.

Examples of common taxable and exempt services:

**HST Taxable:**
- Ice Rental
- Programs over the age 14

**HST Exempt:**
- Building permits
- Programs under the age 14

There have been a lot of changes to Pickering Village since this photo was taken (c. late 1800’s). The road is now paved and the sidewalks are cement rather than wood. Many of the buildings shown in this photo are still standing, including 73 Old Kingston Road (middle, right hand side).

The Murkar House, as it is referred to, is a 1½ story house on the south side of Old Kingston Road and is in excellent condition. It is a fine example of a small town house design of the latter half of the 17th century. The veranda, existing on the north and east sides of the home, was an addition made in the 1920’s. John Murkar was principal of Pickering Secondary School No. 4 for a period of time, after which he acquired an interest in the Pickering News. In 1907, he became sole owner and publisher of the paper. After buying the house in 1912, he moved the newspaper office to the building directly east of his home. The newspaper building still stands with the inscription “THE NEWS” over the front and side doors. Designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

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Then and Now

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Council Directory</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steve Parish, Mayor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>905-683-0842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:steve.parish@townofajax.com">steve.parish@townofajax.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Crawford, Regional Councillor, Wards 1 &amp; 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>905-683-0142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:scott.crawford@townofajax.com">scott.crawford@townofajax.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Jordan, Regional Councillor, Wards 3 &amp; 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>905-626-3639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:colleen.jordan@townofajax.com">colleen.jordan@townofajax.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat A. Brown, Councillor, Ward 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>905-626-3639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pat.a <a href="mailto:brown@townofajax.com">brown@townofajax.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

65 Harwood Ave. S., Ajax, ON L1S 2H9
905-683-4550 contactus@townofajax.com www.townofajax.com