

Public Realm Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

Establishment

This Public Realm Advisory Committee was established by Council Resolution at its April 5, 2011 meeting.

Mandate

Markham is developing in collaboration with our communities an integrated City wide public realm program for the enhancement of all public spaces both new and existing to ensure that our shared public spaces are *Engaging, Sustaining and Beautiful*.

The Public Realm Advisory Committee (PRAC) will work with the community to enhance and animate Markham's public spaces through partnerships, community engagement, and City leadership.

Areas of Focus:

- Development of Public Realm Strategy and related policies
- Community Engagement initiatives
- Explore opportunity to develop partnerships projects
- Advocate for public space improvements
- Support public art program
- Creation of new annual Public Realm funding program for communities
- Seek input from communities on public realm priorities
- Recommend and support City initiated public realm projects

The PRAC will review the annual public realm program from staff and will assist with the evaluation of submissions and recommend to Council projects as part of an annual Public Realm partnership funding program.

Deliverables

The Public Realm Advisory Committee will be responsible for the following:

- To advocate, promote and support public realm programs and initiatives.
- Work with staff to evaluate and recommend Public Realm partnership funding applications for Council consideration.

Areas not within the Public Realm Advisory Committee Mandate

The public realm incorporates many aspects within the City of Markham. The Official Plan identifies the public realm, and many staff and departments address the public realm and report their progress to Council through the Building and Parks section of General Committee, and Development Services Committee. The Public Realm Advisory Committee will not duplicate these existing projects and programs.

Definitions

The Public Realm can be defined as all publicly owned streets, sidewalks, rights-of-way, open spaces such as parks, civic buildings and facilities.

Public spaces are areas such as City owned road right of ways, parks, public buildings such as community centres and libraries, valleylands and storm ponds.

Term of Office

Terms of office shall be 2 years in duration.

Committee Composition

The Public Realm Advisory Committee is comprised of up to seven (7) members of Council and six (6) to eight (8) members of the public appointed by Council. All members are to be selected for their knowledge, expertise, community experience and ability to attend meetings.

Staffing

The Operations, Planning & Urban Design and Recreation Departments of the City of Markham and Urban Design staff at the Region of York will provide advisory staff support as needed. The Clerks Office will provide secretariat support. The Region of York will also be requested to provide liaison staff support.

Remunerations/Reimbursement of Expenses

Members of the Markham Public Realm Advisory Committee serve without remuneration.

Meeting Schedule

Meetings will occur quarterly or at the call of the Chair.

Quorum Requirements

Quorum shall be 50% of the membership plus one.

Committee Operation

Meeting minutes and recommendations shall be received by General Committee and Council following each meeting.

Evaluation and Review

The committee will base their work through the Terms of Reference and the approved budget. It will undergo an annual review of planned and achieved deliverables.

Financial Considerations

An annual capital budget will be developed on an annual basis which will identify the community public realm partnership funding program. The budget would be reviewed and approved by Council.

Changes to Terms of Reference

- At the April 15, 2015 Council meeting, the number of citizen members was increased from 2 to 6 to 8 members.