Regional Councillor Alan Ho

Newsletter 2025



Community Picnic at Aaniin C.C.

Markham Helping Hands 2024

Supported Markham Food Bank

OSPCA - Animal concerns or injuries



Supported M.S.H.



Deeply honoured to be chosen as a recipient of the King Charles III **Coronation Medal**

310.SPCA (7222)

Executive Assistant: Scott Xie I'd like to introduce my

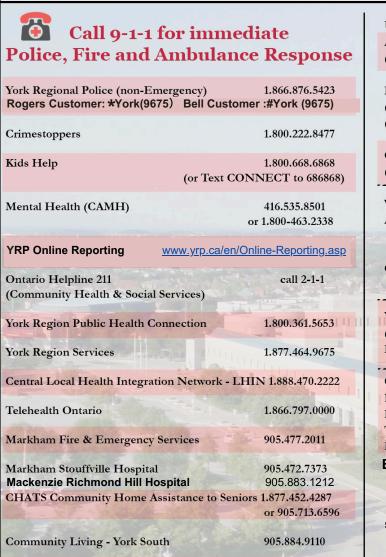


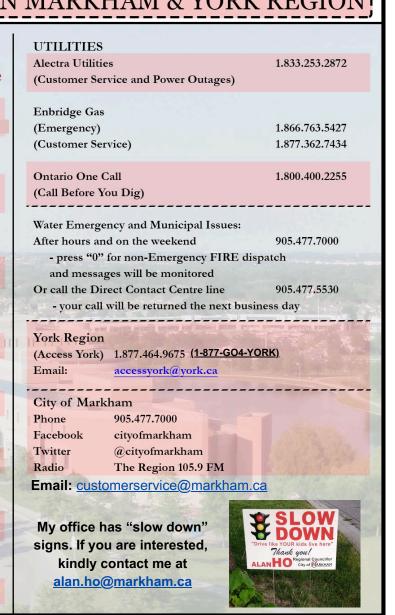
Executive Assistant, Scott Xie. We have worked together for nany years, addressing residents' concerns and handling a wide range of issues. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to contact him at sxie@markham.ca or 905-479-7780.



Meeting with YRP #5 District Superintendent **Chirag Bhatt and Inspector Brad Weick** addressed community safety issues.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS IN MARKHAM & YORK REGION







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www.AlanHoMarkham.ca

- Regional Councillor Alan Ho's Message to Constituents -

Dear Markham Residents.

I hope this message finds you well. As I begin the third year of my term as your elected Regional Councillor, I remain truly honoured to serve our vibrant and diverse community.

Markham continues to lead with strong fiscal management. Our City has adopted Budget 2025, presented by Mayor Frank Scarpitti. The property tax rate increased by 3.88%. Markham still maintains the lowest 20-year average property tax rate increase in the

Community safety remains a top priority. Last November, I co-hosted the Civic Centre Meeting: Stop Crimes-Safer Community, advocating for a review of the Canadian Criminal Code and bail system. I also recently met with YRP #5 District Superintendent Chirag Bhatt and Inspector Brad Weick. We discussed crime prevention, Neighbourhood Watch, scam awareness, and the surveillance cameras at key intersections. I remain committed to working with law enforcement and the community to ensure a safer Markham.

As Chair of the Culture & Economic Development Committee, I'm proud to share that Markham is now the home to over 364,000 residents, more than 650 head offices, and 1,500 high-tech and life science companies. We are a national leader in foreign investment, with 240+ international firms, and Canada's most diverse city.

On transportation, many Box Grove residents raised concerns about pedestrian safety along the Box Grove Bypass. I've worked with York Region and am pleased to share that a new pedestrian signal will be installed north of Rizal Avenue in 2025. It will include push-button signals, high-visibility crosswalks, and features for people with vision impairments, significantly improving safety.

Housing is another urgent concern. As prices rise, homeownership and even stable rentals are slipping out of reach for many. The demand for affordable, inclusive, and sustainable housing is greater than ever. We must act decisively and streamline approvals, while keeping affordability at the heart of our efforts. Housing is a human right and the foundation of a strong community.

Together, we can build a city that is not only prosperous but also equitable and inclusive. Thank you for your continued support. Please reach out to my office with your ideas or concerns. Your voices shape the work we do, and I am grateful for the opportunity to represent you.

Thank you for your ongoing support and trust.

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Regional Councillor Alan Ho

City of Markham:

-Chair, Culture & Economic Development -Director, Housing York Inc. Board Committee

York Region:

-Member, Audit Committee

-Chair, Markham Subcommittee -Member, Accessibility Advisory Committee



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Wechat Public: alanhomarkham



Date: July 19th, 2025, Saturday, 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM Location: Upper Cornell Park (128 Northvale Rd, Markham, ON L6B 1H7) 16th Ave & Bur Oak Ave Northwest Corner

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Understand Your Property Tax:

Your tax dollars, your services



The City of Markham collects 24.19% of property taxes on behalf of the Province of Ontario and the Region of York.

Province of Ontario (Education) 23.72% of the property tax payment for residential properties funds education.

York Region's portion of the tax bill is 52.09% including 15 core services →

The City of Markham: approved the \$674.70 millon budget for 2025, The tax rate increase in 2025 will be 3.88%. For the average home in Markham, this represents an increase of \$53.54 on the City portion of your tax bill. Markham continues to have the lowest average tax rate increase in the GTA over the past 20 years

York Region: approved budget includes \$3.5 billion in operating spending and a \$1.3 billion capital plan, for a total investment of \$4.8 billion. It is based on a tax levy increase of 3.55% and a dedicated 1% infrastructure levy to support transit and other critical projects.



a high quality of life for York Region residents.





















New Digital No Right Turn On Red Sign:



Starting in Summer 2025, York Region will replace the static "No Right Turn on Red" signs with new digital signs at the intersection of Kennedy Road and Carlton Road. The new digital signs will be installed for both the eastbound and westbound directions. This initiative is part of York Region's Vision Zero Traveller Safety Plan and is designed to improve traffic flow and enhance safety for all road users at this busy intersection.

The no right turn on red feature will be activated only when a pedestrian presses the crossing push button. This targeted approach helps increase pedestrian safety, improve visibility for drivers, and reduce traffic delays and queue lengths.

Over the next year, York Region will continue to roll out these digital signs at other locations throughout Markham and across the region.

New Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Locations Coming to Markham in 2025

- · Kennedy Road & Denison Road Milliken Mills High School
- Kennedy Road & 16th Avenue Unionville Montessori School, Unionville Public School
- McCowan Road & 14th Avenue Father Michael McGivney Academy Catholic High School
- Warden Avenue & Highway 7- Unionville High School
- Woodbine Avenue & Russell Dawson Road Nokiidaa Public School





Recycle your e-waste for free! Now accepted at any of Markham's four Recycling Depots:

- Markham Village Depot 6041 Highway 7 East
- Milliken Mills Depot 7660 Kennedy Road
- Thornhill Depot 5 Green Lane
- Unionville Depot 139A Main Street

Drop off your unwanted electronics for safe, responsible recycling.

For all drop-off guidelines, please visit http://markham.ca/eWaste



Markham Animal Adoption and Education Centre (MAAEC): Located at the Thornhill Community Centre: 7755 Bayview Ave, the MAAEC operates in partnership with the Ontario SPCA. It is the first municipally funded adoption storefront in Ontario and works to reduce euthanasia rates in York Region. Visit Future Adoption Events: markham.ca/AnimalAdoption

Markham Business:

Markham Business offers multilingual support and serves a variety of sectors to ensure Markham remains a premier destination for business. Services include Small Business Services and Advisory Support, Small Business Grants. Free Online Seminars, and a wide range of business resources.

Made in Markham: Markham is home to a thriving business community driving entrepreneurship, innovation and local economic growth. From artisanal food makers and eco-friendly packaging companies to cutting-edge technology innovators and software chips/medical equipment manufacturers, these businesses bring quality and creativity to every product.

For more information:markhambusiness.ca

Community Safety:

· Community Meeting:



I'm grateful for the opportunity to have co-organized the "Civic Centre Meeting: Stop Crimes. Safer Community, Review The Canadian Criminal Code and Bail System Petition" last November, alongside the Markham Community Alliance and Mayor Frank Scarpitti.

The petition, which gathered over 5,500 signatures, highlights the rising concerns in our community about issues like car theft and break-ins. To address these concerns, we invited YRP officers and over 30 leaders from Markham's Neighbourhood Watch Groups to address safety issue due to the current bail system to both federal and provincial representatives.

· Auto Theft:

York Regional Police (YRP) announced a 31% decline in auto thefts in 2024, achieved through the efforts of the Auto Cargo Theft Unit (ATCU), data-driven campaigns like Autoguard 2.0, and strong law enforcement partnerships. The ATCU successfully recovered over 245 stolen vehicles, disrupted high-volume theft operations.

These projects, in collaboration with the Canada Border Services Agency and Equité Association, targeted international criminal networks stealing high-demand vehicles. Thieves used advanced methods, including reprogramming ignition computers, to steal vehicles and ship them overseas, particularly to regions like the Middle East, Europe, and Africa. Operation Auto Guard 2.0 focused on disrupting organized crime groups and recovered 15 vehicles worth \$487,000, resulting in 17 people facing 127 charges. These efforts, supported by funding from the Ontario Government, continue to make York Region one of the safest communities in Ontario, highlighting the importance of community collaboration in crime prevention.

Security Camera Registry:

The new Security Camera Registry allows community members to inform York Regional Police about residential or commercial cameras that could assist in crime investigations. By registering, officers can quickly identify potential footage and contact camera owners directly, saving valuable time and resources during investigations. The registry does not give police direct access to your cameras; officers must still request permission to view footage, making it a helpful tool for solving cases, recovering property, or preventing crimes. For more information: YRP.CA

· York Regional Police Community Safety Data Portal:

This platform lets you access the community safety map to explore crime data, view YRP CCTV camera locations, learn about local neighborhood watch groups, and discover how you can become a leader in your community. It also provides a theft of vehicle trends dashboard to keep you updated on vehicle theft information: https://community-safety-portaldatayrp.hub.arcgis.com/

Neighbourhood Watch:

Neighbourhood Watch is one of the key community safety programs I have actively supported since being elected in 2010. It helps reduce crime through the proactive involvement of residents working together to prevent criminal activity before it begins. This program is supported by York Regional Police. If your community doesn't currently have a Neighbourhood Watch group and you're interested in starting one, please feel free to reach out to York Regional Police at neighbourhoodwatch@yrp.ca or contact my office at alan.ho@markham.ca for assistance.