Councillor's Report - Fall-Winter 2011

Katie Mahoney

Mississauga Councillor – Ward 8

MISSISSAUGA
Leading today for tomorrow

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COUNCILLOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Ward 8 Resident:

As your Ward Councillor I am pleased to provide you the 2011 Fall/Winter Edition of the Ward 8 Councillor's Report which I hope you will find informative and interesting. This issue will provide you with information and updates about community, citywide issues, programs and news that are helping to shape our city.

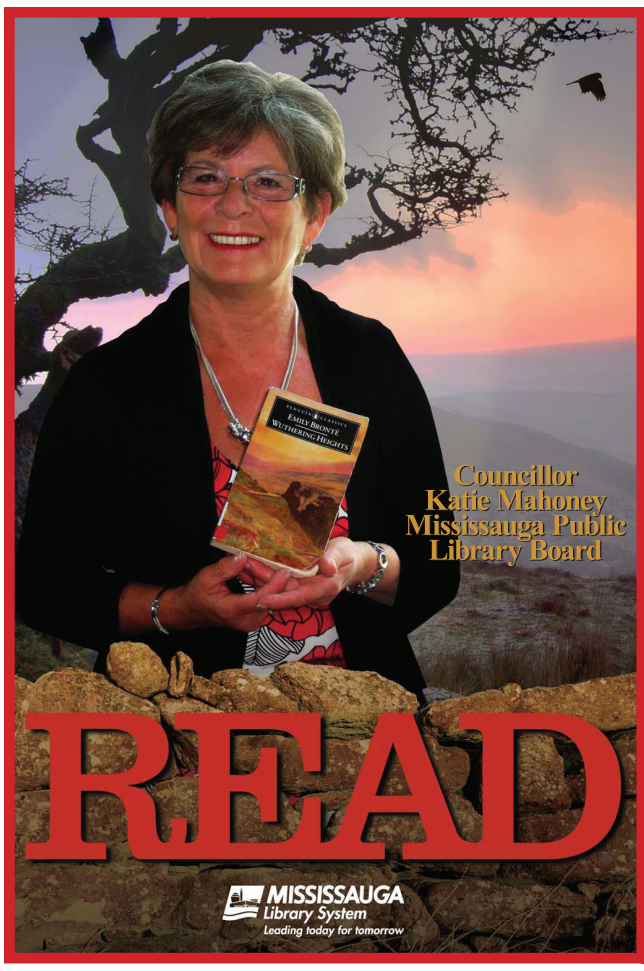
I appreciate receiving your comments, so please feel free to contact me by telephone at 905-896-5800, fax at 905-896-5463 or by email at **katie.mahoney@mississauga.ca**. You may also visit our website at **www.mississauga.ca** for more information on City services. I also invite you to visit the Ward 8 website at **www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/ward8** which is updated on a regular basis with featured articles, community information and notices of Ward 8 community meetings.

As always, it is a pleasure serving you as your Ward 8 representative and I thank you for your ongoing support of my endeavours at the City of Mississauga and the Region of Peel.

As we look forward to a new year I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of my husband Steve and my family, to wish you and your families all the best for a safe and happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!

Katie Mahoney

Katie Mahoney
Councillor, Ward 8



South Common and Sheridan Libraries

At South Common Library, the monthly book club continues to draw new members. Currently, the Library is offering workshops on fall gardening tips. Watch for computer classes for Older Adults and conversation circles for Newcomers in the coming weeks.

In December, the South Common Library will hold its annual customer appreciation day and holiday food drive. Plan to drop by (the Library is now open on Sundays) and get a library card and enjoy the new features and displays.

The Sheridan Library continues to make changes to better meet the special needs of its community. Drop by and enjoy the expanded collections, the new furniture and features and get a library card if you don't have one. Sheridan is also open Sundays.

Driving Away Snow This Winter

You can start to feel the chill in the early morning air and we all know what that means, winter is on the way, but be assured that our Transportation and Works department is busy preparing for its winter maintenance program.

The City is responsible for clearing city roads only, while the Region of Peel maintains regional roads such as Airport Road, Britannia Road West, Erin Mills Parkway and Derry Road East and West. In order for the winter maintenance program to be a success, it requires a cooperative effort between City staff and residents. An on-street parking restriction is in effect from November 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 from 2 a.m. – 6 a.m. During this time, we ask residents to keep their parked cars off the streets as this will ensure faster and safer street plowing.

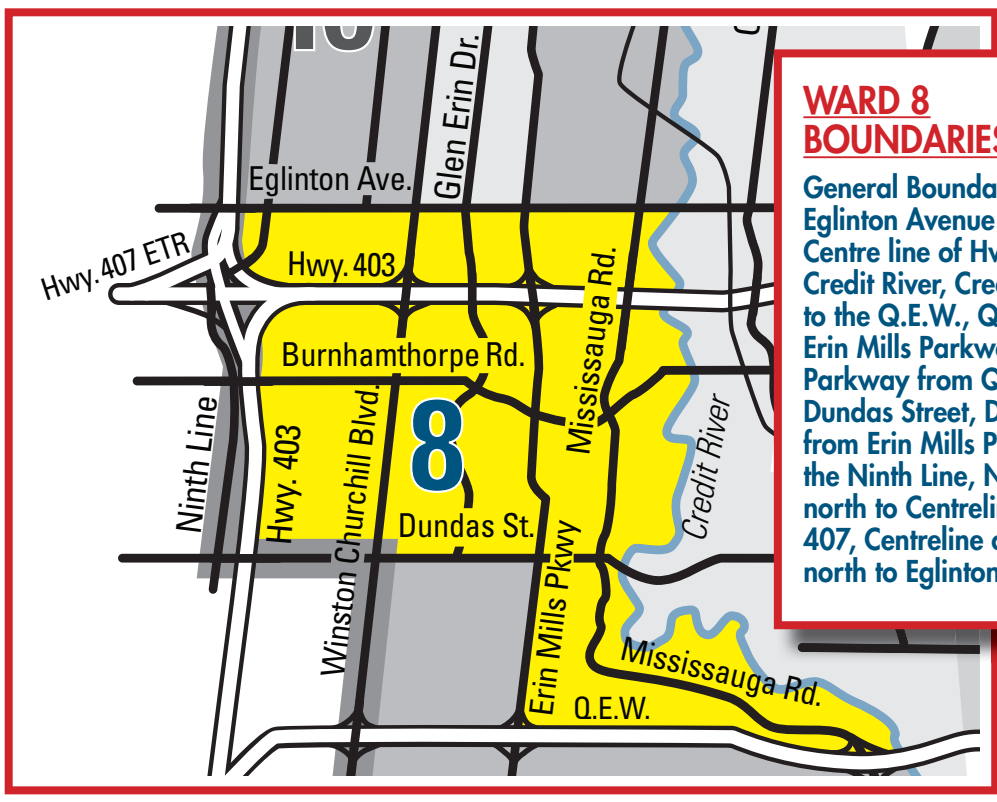
Priority Roads

When the snow flies, the first item on the list of plowing and salting is priority roads which are defined as major roads, arterial roads, and local collector roads such as Burnhamthorpe Road or Dundas Street. These roads are salted if snow accumulation is less than eight centimetres. When there is an accumulation of between eight and 15 cm, they are plowed to achieve bare pavement within 12 hours of the end of a snowfall. If 15-30 cm of snow accumulates, priority roads will be cleared within 24 hours of the end of a snowfall. Service levels drop to 24 hours should there be more than 30 cm of snow or back-to-back snow storms.

Residential Roads/Priority Sidewalks and Bus Stops

Maintenance of residential roads, priority sidewalks (sidewalks on priority roads or on bus routes) and bus stops are next in line after priority roads. City residents can expect these to be cleared within 24 hours of the end of a snowfall of 15 cm or less. If snowfall accumulates between 15-30 cm, snow clearing will occur within 36 hours, and any more than 30 cm or back-to-back snow storms, service will occur after the 36 hour mark.

Continues on page 2 - See "Snow"



WARD 8 BOUNDARIES MAP

General Boundaries: Eglinton Avenue from the Centre line of Hwy 407 to the Credit River, Credit River south to the Q.E.W., Q.E.W. west to Erin Mills Parkway, Erin Mills Parkway from Q.E.W. to Dundas Street, Dundas Street from Erin Mills Parkway to the Ninth Line, Ninth Line north to Centreline of Hwy 407, Centreline of Hwy 407 north to Eglinton Avenue.

City of Mississauga Business Plan and Budget Process

Roads and bridges, snow clearing, recreation programs, parks, trails, transit, library and fire and emergency services – these are some of the critical services that are provided by the City and affect your quality of life on a daily basis. Our Business Plan and Budget outlines how and where we will put our resources so that we can provide the services you expect and provide some new services and service improvements that you are asking for.

It is important to note that your residential property tax bill consists of three components:

- 29 per cent is paid to the City of Mississauga for City programs and services
- 47 per cent is paid to the Region of Peel for Regional programs and services
- 24 per cent is paid to the Province for education

This year, we opened Mississauga Celebration Square, two new pools, six renovated pools and therapy tanks at recreation facilities for residents to enjoy. We also continue to improve our transit service to meet the growing demand for transit in our City making the right connections with our transit partners.

Each year, Council also makes difficult decisions during the budget process as we are faced with rising uncontrollable costs such as fuel, utilities and contractual services combined with significant declines in revenue. The reality is that outside of the property taxes we have limited funding options. Only 44 per cent of City revenues come from other sources such as transit fares, building permits, recreation and other fees. These revenues have declined due to the economic downturn and put additional stress on our budget.

The City of Mississauga has been holding town hall meetings at the Mississauga Civic Centre to explain to residents the services that are supported by property tax. These meetings are part of our efforts to make the budget process more open to residents and encourage public participation and input. Topics include an overview on the business of operating services such as our Fire and Emergency Services and funding challenges. Those who are unable to attend in person can follow the discussion and ask questions live, via the City's Twitter page, **www.twitter.com/citymississauga**. The meetings are also aired on Rogers Cable 10 and streamed on demand at **www.rogerstv.com**. For more information visit **www.mississauga.ca**.

Mississauga's Sign By-Law Governs All Signs

Signs Require a Permit

All signs displayed, erected or altered on private or public lands within the City of Mississauga require a sign permit;

- Signs on public lands including mailboxes are prohibited unless specifically allowed under the Sign By-law
- Signs may also require a separate building permit
- Signs on Public Land

To ensure that you meet the most current by-law provisions, refer to the complete Sign By-law. For copies by mail or for general information, please call 3-1-1 (within Mississauga or 905-615-4311 outside city limits). For online sign By-law information visit:
www.mississauga.ca/file/COM/SignBy_law.PDF

Snow *(Continued from front page)*

Change from Sand/Salt Mixture to Magnesium Chloride Treated Salt:

As part of the City of Mississauga's on-going efforts to reduce the amount of chlorides being applied during winter maintenance operations, The City has made a material switch from a sand-salt mixture to a Magnesium Chloride coated rock salt on the City's secondary roadways, priority sidewalks, and at bus stops. The material may be applied to the City's priority routes if weather conditions require this material. It is anticipated that this material change will result in a reduction of phosphorous and other undesirable elements, such as Total Suspended Solids, on our streams and rivers. It is also anticipated that there will be an overall reduction of chlorides due to lower application rates and fewer number of material applications.

The Magnesium-coated salt particles, because they have a lower freezing point, result in faster and longer snow clearing performance, and better performance at lower temperatures, than regular road salt in clearing the roadway of snow or ice.

It is also expected that the spring clean-up operations (street sweepings) will have less material to dispose of, resulting in a cost savings to the City.

School Bus Cancellations

Please note school bus cancellations are dealt with directly:

Peel Board of Education:
905-890-1099 or 1-800-668-1146

Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board:
905-890-1221 or 1-800-387-9501

Mississauga Furniture Bank

The Mississauga Furniture Bank (MFB) collects gently used basic household items and furniture from individuals and corporations and redistributes those items to families in need as determined by local social agencies. By acting as a hub between donors and social agencies the MFB not only helps those in need but also has a positive ecological impact as furniture and other household items are diverted from local landfills. The MFB provides pickup and delivery services to residents living within the City of Mississauga only. For more information you may send an email to:
info@mississaugafurniturebank.org
or visit their website at:
www.mississaugafurniturebank.org/

CHILD ENTERTAINERS

Currently the City of Mississauga does not regulate children's entertainers. City staff is preparing a report to present to Council at a future date for consideration. Criminal background checks for children's entertainers are strongly recommended.

Mississauga's Affordable Housing Strategy and Action Plan

Mississauga needs a range of housing choices for everyone to feel they belong. Providing options for affordable housing is an important part of ensuring we have the housing choices we need as Mississauga grows.

Recent changes to provincial legislation require all municipalities in Ontario to permit second units.

Second units are self-contained units in single-family homes. They are often called basement apartments or in-law suites.

Second units can expand housing opportunities within established communities and provide much needed safe, healthy, housing choices. They can offer accommodation for people with affordability issues such as youth, older adults and new immigrants. They can also provide additional income for young couples looking to buy their first home or older adults wanting to stay in their neighbourhood.

We are developing a Made-in-Mississauga strategy that includes second units, as well as other housing initiatives to meet our City's needs. Public consultation sessions are planned for early 2012 to discuss how to meet the provincial requirements in a way that works in Mississauga.

Watch for more information on the City's website at **www.mississauga.ca** or feel free to contact us by e-mail at **Housing.Choices@mississauga.ca**.

Emergency Preparedness

The City of Mississauga is well prepared to handle emergencies. The City of Mississauga Emergency Plan is a tool to assist emergency personnel in their response to emergency situations. The plan is reviewed annually and outlines action for the efficient deployment and co-ordination of city services, support agencies, and personnel to provide the earliest possible response in order to: protect and preserve the life, health, and safety of the residents and businesses of Mississauga as well as preserve property and environment.

Emergencies are situation, threats, or serious situations that will adversely affect a significant number of persons, properties, or areas. By their nature or magnitude, these situations may require municipal expenditures, requests for additional resources, provisions for emergency shelter, or evacuation. These situations are distinct from normal operations where coordinated activities among agencies are adequate to resolve the situation.

Mississauga's Emergency Management Office works under the direction of the City's Emergency Management Program Committee and is responsible for the development, implementation, and overall emergency management initiatives in support of citywide preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery in emergency situations. This includes the development, updating and execution of polices and procedures to be adopted in regard to prevention, preparedness, response and recovery phases of emergencies.

The office ensures development and delivery of adequate training of all City staff, elected officials, external agencies and volunteers involved in an Emergency Program. It also promotes emergency preparedness for all citizens of the City of Mississauga.

Visit the Emergency Management Office website **www.mississauga.ca/portal/residents/emergencymanagement** for the City's Emergency Plan and information on how to prepare your family for emergencies such as floods and extreme weather conditions.

A Brief Historical Overview of the Pinchin Property

By Matthew Wilkinson, Historian, Heritage Mississauga

The property formerly known as the Riviere Fruit Farm, located at 4415 Mississauga Road, consists of 33 acres, most of which were converted to apple orchards in the 1930s. Historically, this property was located within an area of land that was excluded from settlement in the treaty signed between the British Crown and the Native Mississaugas in 1805. The treaty, referred to as Treaty 13-A, set aside a one-mile strip on each side of the Credit River for Native use, from modern Eglinton Avenue to the shores of Lake Ontario. This one-mile strip on each side of the Credit River was not surrendered until 1820, and was surveyed in 1821. Lands within this area, known as the Range Lands, were gradually distributed for settlement between 1821 and 1833. The survey description of the Riviere Fruit Farm, also referred to as the Pinchin Property in reference to its last owner, is Parts of Lots 3 & 4, Range 5, North of Dundas Street.

This property was first granted to Thomas Silverthorn, brother of Joseph Silverthorn of the Cherry Hill House, in 1832. Thomas had petitioned the Crown for land in 1819, requesting 300 acres as a reward for his loyal participation in the War of 1812. During the war, Thomas was a private in 2nd Regiment of the York Militia. His militia was involved in the battles of Stoney Creek, Black Rock, Queenston Heights and Detroit. Thomas was later reassigned to the 1st Regiment, Norfolk Militia, where he was wounded at the Battle of Fort Erie, on November 27, 1814. As a result of his repeated petitions, and 13 years after his first petition, Thomas was granted 300 acres of land on May 9, 1932, consisting of Lots 3, 4, 5 in Range 5. This grant includes what is today the Pinchin Property. Sadly, Thomas passed away in 1834, due in part to the wounds he received in 1812.

Shortly before his death, Thomas conveyed his property in 1833 and 1834, in parts, to Jannet Douglass, Elizabeth Butter and General Peter Adamson. Little information is known for certain on Jannet Douglass and Elizabeth Butter. Portions of the property were reunited under the ownership of Alexander McGlashan, who had likely married Elizabeth Butter. In 1847, McGlashan purchased the parcel of land from the estate of Jannet Douglass, and in 1856 acquired the parcel owned formerly by General Adamson. Around this time, McGlashan began subdivided smaller portions of the property. McGlashan died in 1861, and his combined lands were administered and rented by his estate until 1864, when it was mortgaged to Henry Rundle and James O'Neill. They purchased parts of Lots 3 & 4, consisting of about 44 acres, in 1871. The Rundle and O'Neill families likely built the surviving barn and blue farmhouse between 1865 and 1871.

Subsequent owners included Robert Greig in 1901, William Crozier in 1905 and Frank Steen in 1926. Frank Steen sold the property to Herbert Pinchin in 1931. Under the Pinchin ownership, the property was converted to apple orchards and a turkey farm. The Cadillac Fairview Corporation acquired the property in 1969, and they in turn conveyed the land to the province in 1979. The City of Mississauga gained ownership of the property in 1992. Since 1969, Victor Pinchin leased the 33 remaining acres and continued to operate the apple orchard – Mississauga's last commercial orchard. The orchard ceased operation in 2004.

For information on the history of this property, contact Heritage Mississauga at www.heritagemississauga.com

New Year's Day Levee

Meet Mayor Hazel McCallion and Members of Council and celebrate the start of a new year with free entertainment for the whole family at the annual New Year's Day Levee.

2012 will be the 33rd Levee and residents are invited to come together on New Year's Day at the Civic Centre for an afternoon filled with free fun and family entertainment as we ring in the new year.

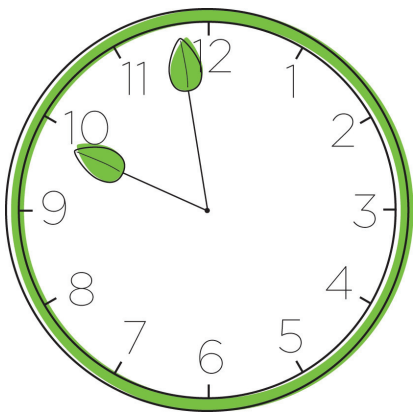
Sunday, January 1, 2012 (2 – 4 p.m.)
Where:
Mississauga Civic Centre
300 City Centre Drive
(Burnhamthorpe Road West
and Duke of York Boulevard)

Did You Know?

The height of the fence on your property is regulated by the Fence By-law and the maximum height of the fence is restricted depending upon the location on your property.

If you are planning on building a new fence or altering your existing fence, view the Fence By-law 397-78 online to check the regulations, or call the City's Compliance and Licensing Enforcement at 905-896-5655 for more information. The City's website has information about this and other by-laws at **www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/bylaws**.

TIME OF USE (TOU) RATES



Time-of-Use (TOU) rates have come to the south and east areas Mississauga. There are many ways to take advantage of the benefits of off-peak times and empower customers to better manage their electricity consumption.

There are many simple things that you can do to save energy and to ensure you are paying the lowest electricity costs available. Between shifting your usage and being more conscious about how you use electricity, you can take control of the power you use.

Steps you can take to manage your electricity usage:

- Install a programmable thermostat and set it to reduce your energy use when you're not at home and when you're sleeping.
- Set your dishwasher/laundry to turn on before you go to bed. You will wake up to clean dishes/laundry while using the lowest price of electricity available.
- In the winter, don't forget to reduce the heat by a few degrees in rooms that are not being used
- In the winter, open up curtains and blinds to bringing in the sun to help heat your home.
- Did you know that many electronic items continue to use power when they are plugged into the wall, even when they are turned off? Since each device can use between 4 and 10 watts of "phantom power" which costs you money, plug these devices into a power bar that you can turn off.
- Did you also know that 15 minutes of pre-soaking and five minutes of agitation will get your clothes cleaner than 15 minutes of energy-using agitation? Use your washer and dryer during lower cost, off-peak hours, and don't overload or under load either machine. If you can't avoid on-peak hours, wash in warm or cold water and use a clothesline to dry.
- ENERGY STAR® appliances and compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) use less power, reducing both your electricity consumption and your costs.

To better understand the effects of shifting your electricity usage, please visit 10 Smart Meter Lane at: **www.ieso.ca/house/enersource**. The interactive house at 10 Smart Meter Lane shows you the effect of Time-of-Use rates as you are using appliances, lighting and air conditioning at different times of the day.

There are also many conservation programs available to you. Enersource, in partnership with the Ontario Power Authority (OPA), are creating programs that can help you conserve. Please visit the Enersource website for information at: **www.enersource.com**

City of Mississauga

Corporate Security

The City of Mississauga's facilities and properties are patrolled on a regular basis by the Corporate Security's mobile response units. On average, Corporate Security's mobile response units patrol 50 different City facilities or properties per 24 hour period, and spend an average of 20 minutes at each patrol location. This approach has been effective in providing an appropriate level of visible security presence and offering necessary assistance while on patrol. Corporate Security works vigilantly to provide a high quality security service while maintaining a level of accountability, customer service, professionalism and cooperation with City staff, patrons and residents. City of Mississauga, Corporate Security's work mandate is to provide a safe and secure atmosphere for all patrons and city staff.

Through the use of the Parks Watch and Graffiti Project programs, patrons are able to work in partnership with Corporate Security in order to help identify and deter potential disturbances and criminal activities. Through partnerships with the City of Mississauga, Corporate Security and Peel Regional Police, Parks Watch is a community-based initiative which allows park users or neighbours to report any issues affecting their local park. Patrons choosing to make a report can do so by calling a 24hr Parks Watch hotline: (905-615-4060). Through the placement of highly visible signage, park patrons have the immediate ability to contact the City of Mississauga's 24 hour hotline number (905-615-4060) and report incidents such as litter, vandalism/suspicious behaviour, acts of graffiti, off leash dogs, burnt out park lights, broken glass and alcohol consumption.

On receiving the call, Corporate Security will dispatch a mobile security response unit for investigation of the reported incidents and will make a formal report for each call received. These reports are then distributed to the City departments involved, and they are made part of the permanent corporate record. Security then uses the report statistics in order to apply resources to the parks that need it most. Further, the focus of Graffiti Project initiative is to liaise with Peel Regional Police and to assist them with their investigation to arrest the suspects indulging in graffiti vandalism and to lay criminal charges and property damage restitution. For each graffiti related reported incident, Corporate Security's mobile response unit investigates the crime site, takes evidence photographs and then a detailed report is filed with Peel Regional Police and on many occasions depending on the severity and nature of graffiti, Police are summoned onsite to pursue the investigation. Upon obtaining clearance from Police, those departments responsible for the maintenance will then initiate the cleanup of the graffiti.

Corporate Security is very grateful to park patrons who report these issues as it provides major assistance in maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for families and park users.

Mississauga 3-1-1

3-1-1 Telephone Service Now Available in Mississauga

3-1-1 telephone service is now available in the City of Mississauga, providing residents, businesses and visitors with easy 3-digit access to City and Regional information, programs and services.

Dial 3-1-1 (905-615-4311 outside city limits) for information on programs and services including:

- Animal Shelter and Adoption Information
- Boulevard Maintenance and Weed Control
- Building Permits/Plan Examination
- Business and Trade Licences
- By-Law Enforcement (Compliance)
- Catch Basins, Storm Sewers, Ditches, Culverts
- Cemeteries (City-owned)
- Committee of Adjustment
- Council Agendas/Minutes
- Curb, Sidewalk, Boulevard Damage and Repairs
- Death Registration
- Encroachments
- Events (City) and Locations
- Flooding from Roads and Creeks
- Leaf Pick-up Program
- Litter and Indiscriminate Dumping
- Marriage Licences and Civil Ceremonies
- Mobile Licences and Taxi Training School
- Municipal Election Information
- Parking Enforcement and Considerations
- Parking Ticket Information and First Attendance Appointment Bookings
- Parks Maintenance and Programs
- Planning and Development Applications
- Potholes, Road and Bridge Maintenance
- Property Taxes – Business and Residential
- Sign Permits
- Spring Roadway Clean-up/Street Sweeping
- Storm Drainage
- Traffic Lights and Signs
- Traffic Maintenance and Inspection (City-owned)
- Zoning

About 3-1-1

If you're not sure who to call about a City or Regional program or service, dial 3-1-1.

Mississauga's Customer Contact Centre is open Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. After hours dispatch service is available for urgent issues on weekends and overnight Monday to Friday. Dial 9-1-1 for life threatening emergencies and crimes.

3-1-1

Neighbourhood Watch

A proactive community program designed to help statistically reduce neighbourhood crimes, increase surveillance, reduce opportunities and educate communities on crime prevention strategies

SafeCity Mississauga CRIME PREVENTION

HOW TO START A NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

- Register your neighbourhood for participation
- Invite your neighbours to participate through our direct mailing option
- Attend a Neighbourhood Watch Set-Up & Training Meeting
- Neighbourhood Watch signage to deter criminality
- Neighbourhood Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Survey Completed
- Civilian Liaison to Peel Regional Police
- Other Benefits

300 City Centre Drive, Suite 1055A
Mississauga, ON L5B 3C9
905-615-6272
www.safecitymississauga.on.ca

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