

Ana  
**Bailão**  
City Councillor for Ward 18

Committed to  
our Community



**Wednesday, June 23, 2011**

## **TCHC to Invest Money from Sale of 22 Houses into Repairs**

Dear friends,

With Toronto facing a significant revenue shortage to balance next year's budget, the difficult questions of not only prioritizing future City projects but of maintaining Toronto's current infrastructure have come to the forefront.

During June's recent meeting of City Council, Council authorized the sale of 22 Toronto Community Housing Corporation houses on the open market and directed TCHC to invest the proceeds into the renovation of some of its other social housing units in Toronto.

Currently, a \$650 million backlog exists to repair the many aging TCHC buildings in Toronto. The sale of these properties will go to address these much needed repairs and begin the process of restoring these units.

***"The state of disrepair erodes the pride and dignity of the individuals who live in these buildings, and further reinforces the stigmatization these individuals deal with on a daily basis. If Toronto is to be a truly fair and equitable place to live we must make repairing these homes a priority, and addressing the backlog of repairs begins now."***

With the Toronto's budget shortfall, and the ever increasing list of property repairs, the sale of these houses was a specific act to halt this downward spiral and actively work toward refurbishing TCHC's

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remaining 58, 500 units throughout the City. Of the 22 properties to be sold, 10 are vacant, and all other residents have been guaranteed alternate accommodation.

***"As public representatives, we have a significant responsibility to provide housing for the vulnerable members of our society, but this responsibility does not simply end with a roof. We must provide quality mixed-housing, in areas with excellent service delivery, and we must move away from the concentrated housing of specific demographics in deteriorating buildings located of service starved areas."***

This decision was about improving the conditions of TCHC tenants, something which must be a priority irrespective of Toronto's financial situation. I look forward to working with other members of Council to increase the level and quality of affordable housing service in the City of Toronto.

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## **Construction on Dundas Street**

2011 has been a year of changes for Dundas Street. First, on-street parking was restored and now major work is underway for a variety of improvements to the streetscape including: new sidewalks, treed boulevards, street furniture, and parkettes to green the area. Whether you walk, bike, take the streetcar or drive, you will notice the difference.

This construction has no doubt been hard on local businesses and throughout this difficult time I believed strongly that, with the promise of a 5-year moratorium on future Dundas construction project, the current inconveniences would be worth the significant improvements to the street once completed.

Recently, in meeting with city staff from Technical Services, I was advised that despite multiple meetings to coordinate the Dundas streetscaping construction, Enbridge Inc. had recently notified staff that 13 gas risers needed to be replaced in the area that could not be done until the fall.

Upon receiving this information I immediately contacted the

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General Manager of Technical Services, highlighting this situation as an egregious waste of City resources, taxpayer money and a further example of the City's "left hand not knowing what the right hand is doing."

After bringing media attention to this issue, many meetings with staff, and numerous phone calls with all parties involved, I am pleased that Enbridge has re-evaluated the necessity of their construction in the area and have agreed to only replace 3 of the original 13 gas risers.

While strong opposition was able to prevent having construction unnecessarily prolonged, and with even larger construction projects in Ward 18's future, there remains a significant responsibility on the part of the City to better coordinate future construction projects. If there is indeed any wasteful spending or "gravy" within the City of Toronto, this is it, and I will continue to insist that City Staff improve their efforts to manage and orchestrate construction projects in the future.

As City Councillor, I worked hard to get parking reinstated, acted quickly to prevent a situation that would have prolonged construction on Dundas Street and have been proactive in working with business owners, residents and the local BIA to meet and resolve the challenges in this area. I encourage all residents to support these local businesses on Dundas Street as they endure this difficult period, and I look forward to the wonderful addition these improvements will provide to the rich character of the area once this construction is complete.

### Helpful Links

#### Toronto

- » [City of Toronto](#)
- » [Business Services](#)
- » [Planning Department](#)
- » [Parks and Recreation Department](#)
- » [Toronto Community Housing](#)
- » [Toronto Cycling Committee](#)
- » [Toronto Forms online](#)
- » [Toronto Maps](#)
- » [Toronto Youth Cabinet](#)
- » [Toronto Transit Commission](#)
- » [Toronto Police Service](#)
- » [Toronto Police - 11 Division](#)
- » [Toronto Police - 14 Division](#)
- » [Toronto Fire Services](#)
- » [Access Toronto](#)
- » [City Council](#)
- » [Council meeting dates](#)
- » [Toronto Parks and Trees](#)

#### Ontario Government

- » [Ontario Government](#)
- » [211 - Community Connection](#)
- » [Assessment Review Board](#)
- » [Municipal Property Assessment](#)

#### Government of Canada

- » [Government of Canada](#)
- » [Citizenship and Immigration](#)

**LET'S GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER**

Your favourite neighbourhood Duwest shops are open for business all summer long, so don't forget to visit.

By the fall of 2011 our section of Dundas st. West (Lansdowne to Lisgar) will be a greener, more beautiful place to live, work and play. We'll have new sidewalks, more trees and great new parkettes for everyone to enjoy!!!

**WWW.DUNDASWESTBIA.CA**

As suas lojas preferidas na Dundas estarão abertas durante todo o verão. Não esqueça de visitá-las!

quando chegarmos ao outono de 2011, a Dundas será uma rua mais verde, mais bonita e mais agradável para viver, trabalhar e visitar. Teremos passeios novos, pequenos jardins e mais árvores para todos desfrutarmos.

consulte [www.Dundaswestbia.ca](http://www.Dundaswestbia.ca) para ver as promoções e receber notícias.

**JUNTOS CHEGAREMOS LÁ!**

[The scheduled work will include many changes to improve the streetscape, including new street furniture, parkettes, trees, new curb and sidewalk construction, road resurfacing and new traffic signals. In Ward 18, the overhaul of Dundas Street will start at Dovercourt Rd. in mid-May and is expected to end in mid- October at Howard Park in Ward 14.]

### **New Green P Parking Lot at St. Veronica's Catholic School**

In light of the Dundas Street West construction project this summer, I have been working closely with both the Toronto Parking Authority and Toronto Catholic District School Board to set up a *Green P* parking area at the St. Veronica Catholic School staff parking lot. The main purpose of this initiative is to provide some relief to the lack of parking pressures being faced by Dundas West business owners due to the road and sidewalk construction in Dundas Street West.

As of Tuesday, June 20, *Green P* signage and a pay and display machine have both been installed. Local residents and customers visiting the Dundas Street West commercial strip can now take advantage of this conveniently located public parking lot. The parking lot is located on Sheridan Avenue, right across from the Mary McCormick Recreation Centre at 66 Sheridan Avenue.

Local residents and business patrons can expect to access this Green P parking lot until August 31 of this year.

The Toronto Parking Authority will be monitoring the use of the facility during these two months, and will report on a possible permanent *Green P* at this location.

Happy shopping on Dundas Street West!

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## ***Ana on Parks***

In Toronto's urban environment, public park space acts as an oasis of grass, trees and plant-life that provide play, walk and enjoy. These public spaces are more than simple greenery, offering a wide assortment of services and programming to the neighbourhood community.

Recognizing the enormous contribution park space has on our community, we must not only make efforts to maintain these spaces, but also to improve them. Below are some recent projects designed to expand and improve the services of the parks in our area.

### **Carelon Park upgrades**

On the morning of Friday June 17, I had the pleasure of meeting with members of the Carlton Park People's Auxiliary along with City of Toronto Parks and Urban Forestry staff to discuss upgrades for Carlton Park located just North of Edith Avenue, between Franklin and Edwin Avenues.

I am looking forward to working closely with City staff on a series of improvements for Carlton Park, which include the addition of more trees, picnic tables and garbage receptacles. I also plan to work closely with staff to upgrade the park design and incorporate separate entrances, pathways, a fire pit and a shelter structure.

While we work together to get these upgrades up and running I invite area residents to enjoy the two new picnic tables that have recently been installed in Carelon Park.

### **Campbell Park Upgrades.**

For those residents familiar with Campbell park, during the winter this park's ice rink is well used by skaters and hockey players. Among the most popular and appreciated services are offered by a small kitchen in the rinkhouse, where Hot Chocolate and hotdogs are a welcomed treat after a game of shinny.

Unfortunately, the poor facilities of the small kitchenette severely limited the variety and amount of service that could be provided.

Working hard with City staff through the winter, we were able to include in the 2011 capital parks projects work to install new sinks and electrical units to support park staff in providing even better food service at Campbell.

Residents visiting inside the rinkhouse will also notice the new door which will improve access for Park staff to the kitchen.

These upgrades were recently showcased during a Campbell Park community dinner which had a great turnout. With over 100 residents attending throughout the evening, the event was a huge success. Special thanks to Michael Monastyrskyj, Yo Utano, Ava, Espe, Marina and the many staff who made this event so great. I look forward to many more.

### **Perth park upgrades**

With the washrooms repaired, extra garbage and recycling bins, and repairs done to the playground equipment, Perth park is ready for another summer of fun and enjoyment by residents and families.

### **McCormack park upgrades**

As part of an initiative to improve the greenery and tree canopy of McCormack Park, 24 new trees have recently been planted. I will also be working with residents to create a stewardship Council for the park to guide and inform the future improvement of the park.

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***Councillor Bailão Forms Private-Sector  
Housing Roundtable***

Councillor Ana Bailão (Ward 18 Davenport), Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee, has convened a roundtable of private-sector experts to promote prosperity in the City of Toronto through partnerships, innovation and the creation of housing opportunities during a period of limited government funding.

“The City of Toronto is committed to working with its partners to respond to the significant housing needs of our residents,” said Councillor Bailão. “I’m very pleased that this group has come together as a result of the recent Symposium on Poverty, Housing and Homelessness to provide advice and suggestions that will encourage the creation of more affordable homes.”

Roundtable members include representatives from Building, Industry and Land Development, the Central Ontario Building Trades, Toronto Board of Trade, United Way of Toronto and the GTA Association, among others.

The Roundtable will meet regularly with Councillor Bailão and officials from the City of Toronto to discuss new opportunities and cost-effective solutions to meet the housing needs of Toronto residents. It will report and make recommendations to the Affordable Housing Committee later this year.

Toronto is Canada’s largest city and sixth largest government, and home to a diverse population of about 2.6 million people. Toronto’s government is dedicated to delivering customer service excellence, creating a transparent and accountable government, reducing the size and cost of government and building a transportation city. For information on non-emergency City services and programs, Toronto residents, businesses and visitors can dial 311, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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## ***Council Highlights***

### **New board for TCHC**

Council appointed a new board of directors for the Toronto Community Housing Corporation. The board is made up of City Councillors Norm Kelly, Frances Nunziata, Cesar Palacio and

John Parker (who is the Mayor's designate), along with seven community members and two tenant-elected representatives of TCHC. The board serves for a two-year term that began June 15.

### **Toronto's ash tree infestation**

Council approved a plan for informing residents - and agreed to request financial assistance from the federal and provincial governments - with regard to the Emerald Ash Borer infestation and the resulting loss of the tree canopy in Toronto. The City will use various means to inform the public about the problem and will expedite property owners' removal of infested ash trees from their properties. More information:  
<http://www.toronto.ca/trees/eab.htm>

### **Paid-duty policing**

Council adopted recommendations made by the Auditor General with the intention of reducing the City's annual expenditures on paid-duty policing for works projects and special events. City divisions, agencies, boards, commissions and corporations spend millions of dollars annually for paid-duty services. Among its actions, Council directed Transportation Services to develop a new policy for traffic control at City construction sites and called for changes to the paid-duty requirements that are tied to special event permits.

### **Toronto bid for 2017 Police and Fire Games**

Council authorized a City bid for Toronto to host the 2017 World Police and Fire Games, conditional upon the Province of Ontario confirming it will contribute \$6 million if the bid is successful. The games are typically a 10-day event attracting about 12,000 competitors in more than 50 sports.

### **Review of winter transportation services**

Council directed staff to review the City's cost of providing winter maintenance services, which include clearing snow from residential windrows, bike lanes, trail paths and transit lanes. Another focus is updating the City's long-term strategy for snow disposal operations.

### **Support for hospitality initiative**

Council agreed to encourage City divisions and agencies to support a hospitality promotion program called We've Been Expecting You, which involves participation by the public and the private sectors alike. The three main streams of activity consist of training for front-line staff, more help for visitors seeking information about the city, and resident participation in

this welcome-to-Toronto initiative.

### **Competitive kite flying in parks**

Council supported a recommendation to prohibit from City parks any kites with strings made of hazardous materials, and to prohibit competitive kite flying in parks that have significant bird activity. Council also agreed to encourage the federal government to ban the importation of kite string that is chemically treated or contains glass fragments. The City will allow competitive kite flying activities that are arranged through the Parks, Forestry and Recreation permit process.

### **Whistle blower protection**

Council adopted a Whistle Blower Protection Policy that clarifies the protection from reprisal that is provided to City employees who report fraud or other wrongdoing. The policy complements mechanisms already in place for reporting fraud to the Auditor General for investigation. The new policy protects City of Toronto employees from reprisal when they report fraudulent activity or wasteful work practices.

### **Management of Casa Loma**

Council confirmed the termination of an agreement between the City of Toronto and the Kiwanis Club of Casa Loma for the management of Casa Loma. The City will set up a corporation to operate Casa Loma until the City establishes a long-term strategy for the castle. Current staff at Casa Loma will be transitioned to the new corporation. The City owns Casa Loma, which the Kiwanis Club of Casa Loma managed for the past 74 years.

### **Sale of shark fin products**

Council referred to the Licensing and Standards Committee a motion from a Council member concerning the sale of shark fin products in Toronto. The motion requests the introduction of a bylaw that would prohibit the possession, sale and consumption of shark fin products in this city.

### **Animal hoarding**

Council referred to Executive Committee a motion from a Council member about the practice of collecting or "hoarding" a large number of animals/pets, usually cats - generally by people who are unable to care for them properly. The motion calls for City inspections staff to report properties that show signs of animal hoarding to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Toronto's Animal Services for investigation.

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## **Recruitment for City Tribunals and Board of Directors**

Toronto City Council invite and encourage you to contribute to the City.

We need people with time and talents who want to make a difference to serve on interesting, challenging City tribunals and boards of directors that deliver key services. Toronto is best served by boards that reflect the diversity of the community. We are looking for Toronto residents with varied skills to serve on the following boards for the 2010-2014 term of Council:

<b>Board of Health</b>	<b>Toronto Police Services Board</b>	<b>Committee of Adjustment</b>
<b>Build Toronto</b>	<b>Toronto Hydro Corporation</b>	<b>Invest Toronto</b>
<b>Toronto Public Library Board</b>	<b>Toronto Atmospheric Fund</b>	<b>George Bell Arena Board</b>
<b>Heritage Toronto</b>	<b>Toronto Licensing Tribunal</b>	<b>Moss Park Arena Board</b>
<b>Yonge-Dundas Square</b>	<b>Toronto Parking Authority</b>	<b>Ted Reeve Arena Board</b>
<b>Exhibition Place Board of Governors</b>	<b>Sony (Hummingbird) Centre for the Performing Arts</b>	<b>McCormick Playground Arena Board</b>
<b>Toronto Zoo Board of Management</b>	<b>St. Lawrence Centre for the Performing Arts</b>	<b>Larry Grossman Forest Hill Arena Board</b>
<b>Toronto Port Authority</b>	<b>Toronto Centre for the Arts</b>	<b>William H. Bolton Arena Board</b>
<b>Property Standards Committee/Fence Viewers</b>	<b>Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</b>	<b>North Toronto Memorial Arena Board</b>
<b>Metro Toronto Convention Centre</b>	<b>Independent Investment Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Leaside Memorial Gardens Arena Board</b>
<b>Metro Toronto Pension Plan Board of Trustees and Metro Toronto Police Benefit Fund</b>	<b>Toronto Civic Employees' Pension and Benefit Fund Committee, and Toronto Fire</b>	<b>Rooming House Licensing Commissioner and Deputy Rooming House Licensing</b>

<b>Boards of Trustees</b>	<b>Department Superannuation and Benefit Fund Committees</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>
<b>Greater Toronto Airports Authority Consultative Committee</b>	<b>Greater Toronto Airports Authority Community Environment and Noise Advisory Committee</b>	

### How Do I Get Information and Applications?

- download information and applications from the City Web site:  
<http://www.toronto.ca/public-appointments/opportunities.htm>;
- pick up an application kit from the City Clerk's Secretariat Offices at  
 Toronto City Hall or the Etobicoke, North York or Scarborough Civic Centres;
  - e-mail [appoint@toronto.ca](mailto:appoint@toronto.ca) ;
  - call 311 (TTY 416-338-0889) for information or to ask for a kit by mail; or
  - pick up kits and talk to staff at an information session:

<b>Information session dates and locations</b>	
<i>drop in to a session of your choice - no registration needed</i>	
<b>Monday, June 27</b> <b>5-7 p.m.</b>	<b>Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall –</b> Council Chambers; and <b>North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street –</b> Committee Room 3
<b>Tuesday, June 28</b> <b>5-7 p.m.</b>	<b>Scarborough Civic Centre, 150 Borough Drive –</b> Committee Rooms 1 and 2; and <b>Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West - Rotunda</b>
<i>If you have special needs such as sign language interpretation please let us know: e-mail <a href="mailto:appoint@toronto.ca">appoint@toronto.ca</a> or call 311 or TTY 416-338-0TTY (0889)</i>	

### How Do I apply?

Complete and e-mail, mail, fax or deliver your application by **Monday, July 11, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.**

### Who Can Apply?

Toronto residents who are at least 18 years old and are not employees of the City or its Agencies, nor the spouse, child or

parent of a City Councillor, can apply. Other requirements can be found on the application form for each board and board information on the City website.

Appointments will be on the basis of equal opportunity to reflect the diverse nature of the city's population. Women, young adults 18-30, people with disabilities, Aboriginal/First Nations people, members of racial minorities are especially encouraged to apply.

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### **Ward 18 Environment Day**



### **Upcoming Events**



**Councillor Ana Bailão**

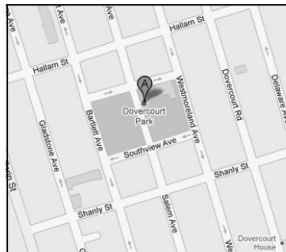


## Community BBQ & Yardsale

Please join me and members of the community for food, entertainment and games for all ages as we fundraise to build a community kitchen at Dovercourt Public School.

Hope to see you there!

**July 16th, 2011**  
**Dovercourt Park**  
**11am-3pm**



**RAFFLE AND PRIZES! VIRGIN RADIO ON-SITE!**  
**CAPOEIRA AND FOLKLORE GROUP PERFORMANCES**

Those interested in reserving a table for the yardsale, please call our office at 416-392-7012 or send an email request to [councillor\\_bailao@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_bailao@toronto.ca)



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**July**

**16<sup>th</sup>**

**Ward 18 Community BBQ and Yard sale**  
**Dovercourt Park, 12pm-3pm**

18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Local Area Study Community Walks</b> (regarding Rail Corridor area lands North of College Street) - <i>Meet at the corner of Symington and Bloor, 6:30pm</i>
19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Local Area Study Community Walks</b> (regarding Rail Corridor area lands South of College Street) - <i>Meet at the corner of Queen and Gladstone, 6:30pm</i>
23 & 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Big on Bloor Street Festival</b> Bloor Street will be closed to traffic between Dufferin and Lansdowne for a fun-filled family day with all kinds of vendors, arts, crafts, and fun activities, including two stages for live performers!
26 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Community Development meeting for 362 Wallace Ave.</b> St. Luigi's Public School, Gym, 6:30pm
28 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Dupont Street Mural Community Meeting</b> St. Luigi's Public School, Gym, 7pm

### **Community Office Hours**

I am always interested in hearing your concerns or comments and I invite you to visit me during my weekly community office hours. Every Saturday I am available from 10am-12pm to meet with you, no appointment necessary.

Saturdays 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Dufferin Mall  
900 Dufferin Street  
Suite 104 (The Abrigo Centre)

**\*No appointment necessary**

This newsletter was sent to you as a part of our office's commitment to ensuring that our constituents are aware of our actions on their behalf.

If you wish to be removed from our list please e-mail [brootmc@toronto.ca](mailto:brootmc@toronto.ca)

**[www.anabailao.com](http://www.anabailao.com)**