



The South Armour Heights Residents' Association

SAHRA's Annual General Meeting

Wednesday April 27 2022 7:00-8:00 pm

Via Zoom Video Conference

Please go to the SAHRA website at <https://sahratoronto.com/> to **REGISTER**

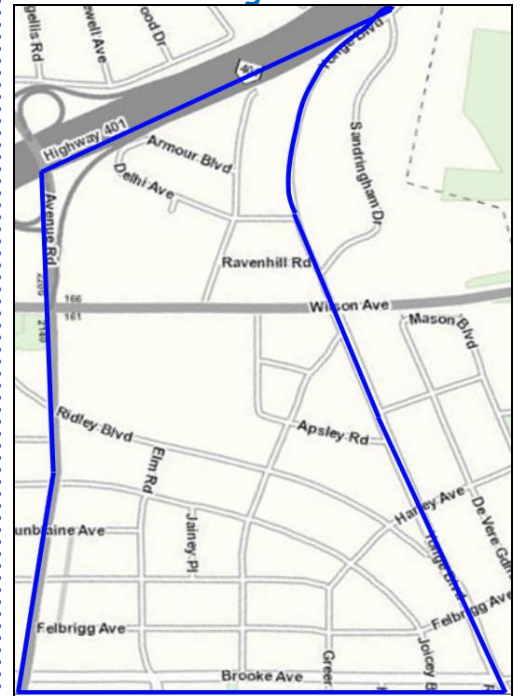
Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes of 2021 AGM
- Treasurer's Report 2021
- Waiver of Audit and Review Engagement
- Call for Nominations / Election of SAHRA Directors and Officers
- SAHRA's Report for 2021
(including Overdevelopment Fundraising Campaign update)
- New Business

Ward Updates - Councillor Mike Colle Question and Answer Period

Please join us!

Our Neighbourhood



North: Highway 401
East: West side of Yonge Blvd
South: South side of Brooke Ave
West: East side of Avenue Road



1648-1670 Avenue Road

The proposal is for a 9-storey condo consisting of 58 units. The primary areas of concern are Height (32.5m versus 22m permitted), lack of stepbacks and angular plane, all of which ignore the guidelines established in the Avenue Road Avenue Study. The Preliminary Report from Planning was presented at the Feb 23, 2022 meeting of the North York Community Council. Planning has arranged a virtual Community Consultation meeting on Wed, Apr 4 6:30-8:30 pm. Planning will then prepare their Final Report for submission to the North York Community Council and City Council.

NE corner of Avenue Road and Lawrence

The developer's agent has contacted the Residents' Associations (BPRO, SAHRA, LPRO And UACA) for further discussions as they have prepared a new version of Plans for this development on the northeast corner of Avenue Road and Lawrence. Our hope is that meetings will be arranged in April – we will then share information on the revised proposal with you.

Subscribe to SAHRA's eBlasts

SAHRA releases eBlasts every two to three weeks to Subscribers within and adjacent to our neighbourhood.

They provide information on development, crime, traffic/transportation, and City issues impacting us. It is a fast way to let you know about upcoming neighbourhood events, special presentations, social events, and public meetings. Please be assured – SAHRA will never disclose your personal information to any third party.

Scan this QR code to go to the Subscribe Page or go to <https://sahratoronto.com/subscribe/>.



sahratoronto.com

Looking for past eBlasts or Newsletters? Neighbourhood history? Development info, planning issues, or how to contact city staff? It's all on our website! Take a moment to explore our site. If you have suggestions, please drop us a note at

info@sahratoronto.com.

The South Armour Heights Residents' Association

Everything you wanted to know about SAHRA in 2021 (but were afraid to ask)

The SAHRA Board and Volunteers were very busy in 2021!

Community Safety: Please see the article on Community Safety, Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Watch Online on Page 3.

Traffic continues to be an issue in our area, leading to concerns for pedestrian safety as well as vehicular safety. In October 2019, Councillor Colle initiated a traffic study with the objective of traffic calming in the area between Yonge Boulevard and Kelso, from Highway 401 south to Brooke. This study is underway but is taking longer to complete due to the pandemic, as the City's assigned team waits for traffic to return to "normal" volumes before taking any measurements. Once solutions have been identified, a public consultation meeting will be held. We've continued to be in touch with the City and will provide updates via our eBlasts as information becomes available. Also on the traffic front, reduced speed limits (30 km/h) will be coming to our residential streets, hopefully in 2022.

2021 was a year filled with information regarding **COVID-19**. We spent considerable effort to keep residents abreast of vaccine availability and neighbourhood case counts through regular eBlasts and on a special COVID page on our website.

SAHRA advocates for the **greening of Avenue Road** between Lawrence and Highway 401. We were looking forward to the addition of trees by the "Highway of Heroes Tree Campaign" at the 401 ramps south of the highway. Unfortunately, the trees were planted to the north of the highway and neither the province nor the City have improved the greenery to the south of the 401. At our request, the City pruned the trees on the east side of Avenue Road between Wilson and Brooke. We would like the City to address the weeds around the bases of all the trees on Avenue Road. We've also advocated for cleanup of graffiti,

The TTC owns a **bus turnaround loop** at the corner of Avenue Road and Old Orchard Grove. Over the last two summer / fall seasons, SAHRA has supported a part-time farmers' market at this location, organised by the Upper Avenue Community Association (UACA). We're pleased that the market will be coming back this summer. In addition, there is a movement afoot to change the bus loop into a park. SAHRA supports this as long as TTC buses do not turnaround on residential streets and Section 37 funds are not extensively used for this purpose.

SAHRA helped host an **all-candidates virtual meeting** for the federal election last fall. We look forward to repeating for the provincial and municipal elections in 2022.

EHON Multiplexes Study

The Multiplex study is part of the Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods (EHON) initiative. This study is to support the construction of a range of low-rise housing across the City's low-rise neighbourhoods. The scope of the study includes multiplexes – buildings with two, three and four units – and low-rise apartment buildings. The scope includes:

- (a) changing zoning for additional types of residential dwelling units in residential zones (i.e. semi-detached or triplex)
- (b) zoning for other forms of low-rise housing in areas designed as Neighbourhoods, along Major Streets, and
- (c) zoning changes for garden suites, coach houses, through-lot suites, and other forms of additional units in accessory buildings.

A Report was presented to the Planning and Housing Committee on February 15, 2022 for 19 Initiatives, possible outcomes, and questions to be considered. Online Open Houses were to be held in March, 2022. The Final Report, Official Plan amendments and Zoning By-law Amendments are to be presented by end of Q2 2022, so they could be approved at the final City Council meeting in July, prior to the Election. Visit the sahratonto.com website (Development/Multiplexes) for more info and links.

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Community Safety, Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Watch Online

Auto theft incidents in SAHRA's area climbed in 2021 to 12, the worst year since we started tracking stats in 2014, and 2022 is starting off even worse, with 6 thefts by March 26. The auto theft issue continues to be very challenging across the entire city with 6,000+ incidents in 2021. Most stolen vehicles are shipped in closed containers for sale overseas. Together with UACA, we successfully petitioned 32 Division to re-establish an Auto Theft Suppression Team. We believe that a multi-jurisdictional (Toronto, Peel, York, OPP, RCMP, Canada Border Services Agency) team needs to be established to combat this organised-crime issue. To this end, City Council passed a motion in December, moved by Councillor Colle, to re-establish a city-wide team and call on provincial and federal jurisdictions to support it.

We met with the Insurance Bureau of Canada which provided us with a greater understanding of the business of auto theft. While we attempted to contact Lexus, an automaker high on the stolen vehicle list, they never responded to our enquiries.

We continue to suggest that residents to follow auto theft prevention techniques:

1. Park in a garage.
2. If that is not possible, use a Faraday box/pouch to store your key fob whenever you are not operating your vehicle – even when shopping. Small pouches can fit in a pocket or purse.
3. Add to the Faraday protection with the use of a steering wheel lock such as the Club.
4. Add another layer of protection by installing a device which blocks access to the vehicle's Onboard Diagnostic Port (which is located under the steering column). Once inside a vehicle, thieves can otherwise access this port to program a new smart key.
5. Cover your VIN (Vehicle Identification Number) so it is not visible from outside. The VIN is located on the front driver's side corner of the dashboard and viewable through the windshield. Some newer vehicles have a QR code near the VIN – make sure it is covered too.

As for **Break and Enters**, a decline since 2017 continued with zero residential B&E's in 2021. However, we expect an uptick in B&E's as people spend more time away from home, at school, offices or while travelling. To protect your home, you might want to contact the Crime Prevention Officer at 32 Division at 416-808-3200. He will come to your home and provide recommendations after performing an audit.

In early 2021, a **dog was attacked** by another dog in our neighbourhood. The City's Animal Services was engaged by calling 311 and they interviewed the attacking dog's owner. No attacks occurred after and the owner has since moved. There are also reports of **coyotes** in our neighbourhood, with a dog being attacked in a fenced back yard. The coyote was scared off by the homeowner. If coyotes are in your area, do not let your pet out into your backyard alone.



One of the most effective ways of **reducing crime** is to know your neighbours and watch out for each other. Criminals are much less likely to strike if they know that there is a network of neighbours who recognize each other and question when something appears to be amiss. To this end, SAHRA and UACA support **Neighbourhood Watch Online**. We support Group Captains to form small groups of residents who communicate with each other primarily through online means, such as email. Several Neighbourhood Watch Online Groups were established a few years ago. If you are not covered by one of these groups, we are looking for a volunteer Group Captain in your area!! We estimate the time commitment as a few hours to set up the group and then minimally after that to co-ordinate a few communications per month. We provide training and documentation. Interested? Please contact us at info@sahratoronto.com and help us make Neighbourhood Watch Online a reality throughout SAHRA's neighbourhood.

The South Armour Heights Residents' Association

228 Wilson Avenue (at Clyde)

Board of Directors



This 17-storey rental apartment was pre-approved by a Site Plan By-law in 2014. The applicant has received approval for some modifications – the building increases from 108 to 131 units while parking is reduced to 94 spaces as occupants are expected to use the TTC. A safe crossing system needs to be designed to cross the 4 lanes of Wilson. As well, traffic safety for left turns in/out in the vicinity of the 401 overpass needs to be carefully considered. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2022.

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Jim Sadler, President
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Bob Williams, Vice-President
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Volunteer

Join our volunteer contingent.
 Please email
info@sahratoronto.com.

2022 Membership Drive

The mandate of the South Armour Heights Residents' Association (SAHRA) is to promote safety and security in our Neighbourhood; to protect South Armour Heights residents from inappropriate planning and development from residential, commercial, transportation and any other sources; and, to enhance the environment and social life in our community.

Your financial support helps us fulfill SAHRA's mandate!

3 Ways to Join / Renew Your Membership

- By PayPal or credit/debit - scan the QR code or visit <https://sahratoronto.com/membership/>
- By Interac eTransfer to etransfer@sahratoronto.com (no security question)
- By cheque (complete the form below to mail with your cheque)



2022 SAHRA MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

- I would like to give my support to SAHRA. Please find attached my cheque for:
- \$25
 \$50
 \$75
 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Email Address _____

SAHRA will never disclose your personal information to any third party.

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Daytime Telephone _____ Evening Telephone _____

- I am interested in volunteering my time for SAHRA. Please contact me to discuss how I can help.
- Optional: Please do not publish my name in the annual contributors list.

Please make your cheque payable to "SAHRA"
 You can mail it to SAHRA, 1500 Avenue Road, PO Box 1373, Toronto, ON M5M 0A1
 OR drop it off at 118 or 123 Felbrigg Avenue