



# What's Trending?

Construction fully underway at Amazon's second fulfillment centre!



Word In anticipation of Amazon's new five-level building that will span 2.7 million square feet, the largest building permit ever issue in the history of the City of Ottawa, Economic Development staff interviewed Matthew Wilson who is a Development Inspections Supervisor for the City of Ottawa about his experience with local stakeholders and this massive development coming to Barrhaven.

Key facts about Amazon's second robotics fulfillment centre:

• Three times larger than Amazon YOW1 located on <u>Boundary Road</u> which is the size 60 hockey rinks.

- When complete, it will increase Ottawa's industrial inventory by 7.9%.
- Expected to create approximately 1,000 new jobs.
- Five-level industrial building will span 2.7 million square feet and Amazon's footprint will take up 450,000 square feet.
- Second fulfillment centre will open in 2021 and expects to handle smaller goods such as books, electronics, and toys
- This is Amazon's eighth facility in Ontario and fourteenth in Canada.

**Q**: Please tell us about your job in general and what it entails? How it is different from a building inspector? **A**: I'm a supervisor of development inspections and work with a team of construction technicians who look after development projects—like the Amazon site—throughout the city. It includes everything from the smallest site plans to large subdivisions and everything in between. Building inspectors look after the building and everything inside. Whereas, construction technicians inspect everything outside a building or home, including all the related infrastructure (roads, sewers, water mains, lighting and landscaping). They also ensure the developer adheres to the site plan and agreement and manage securities obtained by the City, releasing them back to the developer as work is completed.

**Q**: Regarding this historic development located in Barrhaven at the <u>CitiGate Business Park</u>, what has your work experience been like? Are you dealing directly with staff from Amazon or more so with staff from the developer – Broccolini?

**A:** We deal directly with the developer, Broccolini. The construction technicians who are overseeing the Barrhaven site plan development have an existing relationship with Broccolini from previous projects within the City. The experience working with Broccolini on the Amazon site has been professional and efficient as the project progresses. They've been responsive in addressing any matters that have been raised by the City.

Q: Who are the main stakeholders you deal with and what are their primary concerns?

**A:** We're working with individuals from Broccolini, who are the project managers tasked with ensuring the construction is completed on schedule and the site plan agreement is fulfilled. Broccolini has also hired an engineering consultant, Novatech Engineering Consultants, and they provide full-time inspection throughout construction. We also deal with the general contractor, Tomlinson Group of Companies, that is responsible for the supporting infrastructure needed for the site and building.

Q: This is a huge development and there has been a noticeable increase in truck and construction traffic. How do you address resident concerns about construction noise and road safety, for example?
A: We work closely with Broccolini and the City's Transportation Services Department to review and address any concerns about traffic volume and road safety in the area. We also communicate the expected schedule for completion of the site to residents. Construction noise is restricted to hours designated in City of Ottawa Bylaws.

#### Ottawa's electric vehicle charging network is growing!

Word The City is planning to install 24 new onstreet electric vehicle charging stations across Ottawa. The stations are being installed to increase the uptake of electric vehicles in Ottawa and as part of street parking facility improvements. Switching from gas/diesel vehicles to electric is one of the most important actions required to meet Ottawa's target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 100 per cent by 2050.

The charging stations will primarily be installed in the boulevard, the area between the sidewalk and the street. They are intended to provide



more charging options to residents who may not be able to charge an electric vehicle at home.

Find out more and let us know what you think about the proposed locations

### **Did You Know?**

### The Jackie Holzman Bridge is now open!

The <u>Jackie Holzman Bridge</u> (formerly the Harmer Avenue Pedestrian Bridge), is now open for use! Pedestrians and cyclists can now access the bridge, providing a safe connection over the 417 to two Ottawa communities, Wellington West and the Ottawa Civic Hospital.

Construction for the Jackie Holzman Bridge began in summer 2018 and forms part of the active transportation network. The bridge also reduces distances, provides a safe cycling and walking path for residents, shortens commute times and offers a dedicated active and sustainable transportation route. The project budget is \$13.5 million.

Final works to be completed after the opening include the installation of:

- Final landscaping
- Exterior bridge sign
- Bridge plaque on south side

July 15 2020, in recognition of former Ottawa Mayor and accessibility advocate Jackie Holzman's exceptional community service, Council approved a motion to rename the Harmer Pedestrian Bridge in Kitchissippi Ward the Jackie Holzman Bridge.

Mrs. Holzman is a passionate accessibility advocate, devoting her efforts to improve housing and employment opportunities for people with disabilities. She was the first Jewish woman and third woman to become Mayor of Ottawa. She worked tirelessly during her time at City Hall to bridge differences between communities and to unite residents around important issues. Mrs. Holzman continues to improve the community, co-founding Compassionate Ottawa to help people live as long and as well as they can.





### What's New!

### Planning, Infrastructure and Economic Development (PIED) Department -Committee Highlights

The City's Finance and Economic Development Committee on September 1st 2020 received an update on the <u>economic impact</u> of the pandemic on Ottawa's economy and the City's efforts to foster recovery. To support economic recovery, the City has created a <u>business support and recovery</u> webpage, encouraged residents to support local businesses, offered temporary property tax deferrals to qualifying property owners, developed a toolkit for safe business reopening, reduced fees and accelerated approvals for new patios, and encouraged residents to explore rural wards. New programs such as <u>Digital Main Streets</u> and <u>ShopHERE</u> are focused both on stimulating economic recovery today and future-proofing businesses for tomorrow.

The Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on September 3rd 2020 recommended staff enter into an agreement with Mattamy Limited that would see the developer pay the City to build <u>sanitary sewer infrastructure</u> <u>for the Village of Richmond</u> earlier than planned. Development within the village is limited by the need to upgrade the Richmond Village Sanitary Pump Station, a project that is currently underway, and to add a second sanitary line along Eagleson Road. The City has plans to add that line, but not until 2026. An agreement with Mattamy would allow that work to proceed much sooner, providing enough capacity within the village to allow further development in Richmond to proceed.

The Planning Committee on September 10th 2020 approved a zoning amendment to encourage new eight-to-12-unit low-rise apartments in established inner-urban neighbourhoods like Centretown, Sandy Hill, Vanier, Overbrook, Hintonburg and Westboro. Ottawa has a long-standing shortage of rental apartments, and the resulting low vacancy rates are a primary factor in housing affordability. The amendment would gradually increase the apartment supply in Ottawa's <u>Residential Fourth Density (R4)</u> family of zones to better accommodate the growing number of people wishing to live in established inner-urban, low-rise communities.

## **Get Involved!**

#### **Engage Ottawa**

You can weigh in on different online engagement opportunities using the City's new innovative engagement platform, <u>Engage Ottawa</u>. See a full list of current engagement opportunities by visiting our <u>public engagement</u> <u>event page</u>.