

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025

Wards 1 & 5



ROWENA SANTOS

Regional Councillor
Wards 1 & 5
905.874.2605
rowena.santos@brampton.ca

PAUL VICENTE

Regional Councillor
Wards 1 & 5
905.874.2601
paul.vicente@brampton.ca



It has been an exciting start to the year! Here are some highlights.

Connecting our Transit Network

After many years of hard work and advocacy, the City of Brampton alongside other orders of government are bringing transit projects to life. The rapid transit tunnel to the downtown core and GO station will ensure fast, reliable and sustainable transit.



stand4canada.ca

As Vice-Chair of Economic Development, I had the privilege of addressing hundreds of business leaders at the Brampton Board of Trade. I emphasized the importance of taking a united "Made in Canada" approach to address a trade war and protecting our local economies and jobs.



Century Gardens Youth Wellness Hub

I was excited to announce the launch of a Youth Wellness Hub as part of the Century Gardens Youth Hub currently under construction. This hub will provide critical mental health services in a safe, supportive space for our youth.



Public safety continues to be a top priority. Check out Page 6 for info on how I'm working to address your safety concerns.

These are just a few highlights. Please visit CouncillorSantos.ca for the latest updates!

Rowena Santos

Regional Councillor, Wards 1 & 5

Happy Spring!

Thank you for taking the time to read the first newsletter of the year. I'm excited to share some important updates from the City of Brampton.

Construction is officially underway on the next phase of **Peel Memorial Hospital**, marking a major step forward in expanding health care in Brampton. The long-awaited project will bring hundreds of new inpatient beds, a 24/7 emergency department and enhanced services. With over \$2 billion invested, this expansion is set to transform local healthcare access for generations to come.



Brampton Transit secured a robust funding boost to the tune of **\$106 million over the next decade** to enhance transit infrastructure, reduce emissions and support transit-oriented communities through the new Canada Public Transit Fund.

We're also celebrating another win for sustainable transit—the **extension of the LRT into downtown Brampton!** This project is set to transform connectivity, ease congestion and provide residents with greater access to essential services. Read more inside for all the details.



As your Councillor, I am always eager to meet and learn more about residents, so please don't hesitate to reach out to me and stay up to date with activities and events in the city by following me on social media.

Paul Vicente

Regional Councillor, Wards 1 & 5



Experience delightful dining options, unique shopping experiences and exciting events. For a full list of local businesses and upcoming events visit downtownbramptonbia.ca Save the date for our iconic summer festival - Party in the Lanes - July 11, 12 and 13, 2025.





2025 BRAMPTON BUDGET: DRIVING PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY

The City of Brampton's 2025 Budget reflects our commitment to progress and prosperity through strategic investments in infrastructure, transit, health care and community spaces. With a 2.9% tax levy increase, we continue to prioritize affordability while meeting the needs of our growing population. The City maintains one of the lowest tax rates in the GTA while addressing the needs of our rapidly growing population. A comprehensive operational review has led to over \$2 million in reduced operating costs, ensuring responsible financial management. Learn more about how this budget supports our community's future at brampton.ca/budget

GROUNDBREAKING AT PEEL MEMORIAL – BRAMPTON'S SECOND HOSPITAL BEGINS CONSTRUCTION

Brampton's second hospital at the Peel Memorial site broke ground on March 28. With \$81.1 million already set aside and another \$4.9 million through the City's annual levy, we're making significant progress in delivering enhanced services to our community.

The new hospital will include:

- A 24/7 Emergency Department
- New and enhanced services for seniors
- New and enhanced mental health and addictions services
- Rehabilitation and complex continuing care services



DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

The City's downtown revitalization efforts are progressing at an exciting pace, with major projects underway. Set to be complete in 2027, this overall transformation will bring wider boulevards with enhanced furnishing zones designed for vibrant patios and outdoor dining, upgraded traffic signals to improve flow and safety and stylish granite curbs and pavers to enhance the downtown aesthetic. The first granite section on Queen Street East (Main to Chapel/Theatre Lane) will be completed in early spring, with the south side following. In fall 2024, an international design competition launched for Ken Whillans and Garden Squares, with five top firms selected to submit design concepts this spring. Stay tuned to share your input on this transformation. Learn more at brampton.ca/downtown



RIVERWALK UPDATE

The Riverwalk project is an innovative solution to mitigate flood risks in downtown Brampton while fostering sustainable urban growth, attracting investment and enhancing the public realm. Once complete, it will:

- Protect downtown properties from flood damage, including during regulatory storm events.
- Remove the Etobicoke Creek floodplain and provincial floodplain development restrictions.
- Spur economic, environmental, social and cultural opportunities, supporting downtown revitalization, the Innovation District and new developments such as the Centre for Innovation and a mobility hub.

The Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario have committed funds to support the project. Construction of the flood protection is scheduled to commence this year and be completed by 2028. To learn more, visit brampton.ca/riverwalk

MULTI-USE YOUTH WELLNESS HUB COMING TO CENTURY GARDENS

The City of Brampton has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Peel Children's Aid Society to establish a new Youth Wellness Hub as part of the Century Gardens Youth Hub project. This multi-use hub will be a comprehensive support system, offering wrap-around essential services for mental health, substance use and primary care services. The Century Gardens Youth Hub is part of Brampton's Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which is a roadmap for the delivery of parks, recreation facilities, programs and services for the community until 2036. For more information, visit brampton.ca/rec-revitalized



LRT COMING TO BRAMPTON!

The City of Brampton is making history with the expansion of the Hazel McCallion Light Rail Transit (LRT) four-kilometre extension into downtown Brampton featuring an underground tunnel. With the provincial and federal governments' recent funding commitments to support this transformative project, we are one step closer to delivering a world-class transit network that will benefit our growing community for generations to come. Expected to create and support 33,000 housing units and 17,000 jobs, the project will drive economic growth and urban renewal. With improved access to key destinations like the Brampton Innovation District, this extension will support a thriving, connected and accessible downtown for residents and businesses for years to come. Learn more at bramptontransit.com



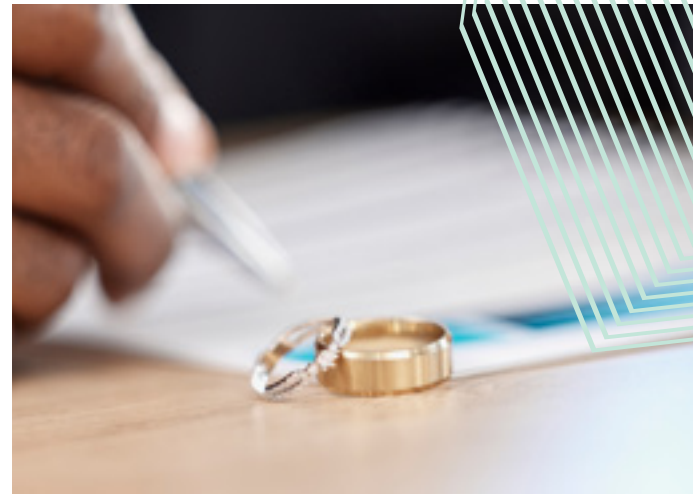
KEEPING STREETS SAFE

Keeping Our Streets Safe

Be a good neighbour by following parking by-laws to keep our city safe and accessible.

- Avoid parking on the street for more than three hours and refrain from parking between 2 and 6 am.
- Ensure bike lanes remain clear and your vehicle does not overhang sidewalks, lawns or the street.
- Inoperative, immobile or unlicensed vehicles are prohibited on the street.
- Vehicles taller than 2.6 meters or longer than 6.7 meters should not park on residential streets.
- Always park in designated areas, follow street signs and ensure fire routes remain clear.
- Residents can request up to 14 days of parking consideration per vehicle, per year.

Together, we can build stronger communities. Learn more at brampton.ca/bylaws



TYING THE KNOT? APPLY FOR A MARRIAGE LICENCE

Before getting married in Ontario, you must obtain a marriage licence. Couples who are looking for a simple and dignified approach to exchange their marriage vows can book their ceremony with the City of Brampton. Ceremonies are conducted at Brampton City Hall during office hours from Tuesday to Friday (except for statutory holidays). Share the celebration - up to eight people can be accommodated at our marriage venue. Learn more at brampton.ca/marriageservices



CONTACTING 311

Service Brampton provides direct access to all non-emergency municipal government information, programs and services provided by the City of Brampton and Region of Peel. Customer service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in over 150 languages. Connect with us through the 311 mobile app, website, email or in person. Between the hours of 12 am and 7 am, please call 3-1-1 for urgent inquiries only. Learn more at 311brampton.ca



MAKING TAX PAYMENTS EASIER AND MORE CONVENIENT

Sign up now for the City of Brampton's pre-authorized tax payment program and never have to worry about missing a deadline. You can choose to pay monthly (at the beginning or in the middle of the month) or six times per year and avoid any penalties or interest on late payments. If this plan doesn't work for you, you can still pay by cheque, debit, in person at a bank or through a bank's website. A credit card option is available but additional fees apply for this service. Learn more at brampton.ca/tax

PROPERTY STANDARDS: KEEP BRAMPTON CLEAN, SAFE AND BEAUTIFUL

By-laws help maintain the quality of our city and everyone plays a role in upholding these standards. Following property standards ensures we all enjoy a clean, safe neighbourhood and shared public spaces.

- Maintain your yard by keeping grass under eight inches, trimming vegetation for safety and ensuring proper ground cover to prevent erosion.
- Accessory structures like pools, hot tubs and fences require permits and must meet specific requirements.
- Keep your property free from waste and debris and store waste carts properly.

Visit brampton.ca/bylaws for more information.



BABY WILDLIFE IN THE SPRING

Spring is a crucial time for wildlife as many animals are nesting and raising their young. If you see a baby animal alone, do not remove it - its parents are likely nearby and will return when it's safe.

Keep pets away from wildlife to avoid stress or harm. Never feed wild animals, as it disrupts their natural behaviour. If you find a nest in your yard, leave it undisturbed and observe from a distance. For sick or injured wildlife, call 3-1-1.

Respect nature and give wildlife the space they need to thrive. Learn more at brampton.ca/animalservices



PRIORITIZING PUBLIC SAFETY

Public safety remains a top priority for me. In January, I conducted a text survey to better understand your safety concerns. To be part of future surveys, visit councillorsantos.ca/consent. Here are your top public safety concerns:



We are ramping up our support for public safety with the approval of 300 more police officers.



BY-LAW & ENFORCEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

In my push for an operational review and improved by-law enforcement operations, implementation is underway this year:

- Hiring 40 additional bylaw enforcement officers
- Proactive enforcement and RRL blitzes in identified hot spots
- Prioritizing complaints regarding Property Standards
- Increasing and escalating parking fines for repeat offenders

Remember to report issues online and get a COBI reference number:
311brampton.ca/service-request-categories



CRIME PREVENTION WORKSHOP AND COMMUNITY TOWN HALL

Based on results from the survey and in partnership with Peel Police, I hosted a Crime Prevention Workshop and Community Safety Town Hall to help empower residents with tools and knowledge to improve personal safety. For those unable to attend, we've created a condensed online webinar. Register here: councillorsantos.ca/crime-safety-workshop-engages-residents/



SAFER DRIVERS = SAFER ROADS

The City of Brampton continues to address road safety with traffic calming measures like speed cushions, cameras, road diets and more, but we must also address unsafe drivers who simply should not be on our roads to begin with. Driver licensing falls under provincial jurisdiction. This is why I passed a motion to advocate for the provincial government to crack down on fraudulent driving instructors and improve the driver training and examination process.

If you agree, join me in urging the province to strengthen road safety. Sign the Safer Drivers = Safer Roads petition: councillorsantos.ca/petition-safer-drivers



CELEBRATE CULTURE AT CARABRAM

Carabram, one of Brampton's longest-running festivals, returns on July 11, 12 & 13! Don't miss the chance to experience all 11 pavilions and get your fill of tasty food, live music and exhilarating performances. Grab your passports and whisk your family away for a whirlwind trip around the world right here in Brampton. Find out more at carabram.org



BRAMPTON'S NEW LIBRARY

The Howden Recreation Centre and Library (150 Howden Blvd) is a wonderful example of the City of Brampton making smart and thoughtful investments to meet the community's needs. This project shows our commitment to putting people first, promoting a healthy mind and body, and creating spaces that bring members of the community together in meaningful ways.



STUDENT VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

It was great to see so many young Bramptonians engaged in the community and getting involved! We were so happy to host a Student Volunteer Appreciation Night with a special guest appearance from Mayor Brown!



AN EXCITING LRT EXTENSION

As the Chair of the Public Works and Engineering Committee, I want to thank the province for working with us to make this project a reality. As a Councillor, I am committed to easing congestion and making it easier for residents to get where they need to go. Investing in sustainable transit allows us to build a better-connected Brampton for future generations. Read more at paulvicente.ca/downtown-lrt



ADVOCATING FOR ONTARIANS WITH AMO

I continue to work with AMO President Robin Jones and other Council members to push for infrastructure funding that will meet the needs, not only of Brampton but of municipalities across the province. Through AMO, we continue to advocate for stronger investments in transit, housing and essential services to support growing and diverse communities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sikh Heritage Month | **April**

Journey to Freedom Day | **April 19**

Langar Seva | **April 24**

National Day of Mourning | **April 28**

The FOLD | **May 1 to 4**

Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony | **May 6**

Citizen Awards | **May 8**

Rib 'n' Roll | **May 23 to 25**

Lusofonia | **May 30 to June 1**

Celebrate Pride | **June 1**

Bike Month | **June 1**

Brampton Concert Band Thursday Night Concerts | **June 5 to September 4**

Community Eid | **June 7**

Bike the Creek | **June 7**

Kite Festival | **June 7 & 8**

Filipino Heritage Month Celebration | **June 8**

Heritage Music Sounds | **June 13 to 15**

Italian Heritage Month Celebration | **June 14**

Brampton Farmers' Market | **Starting June 14**

National Indigenous Peoples Day | **June 20**

Canada Day | **July 1**

This is a selection of events, to see the full list visit experiencebrampton.ca 

CHECK OUT

CITY MATTERS


 BRAMPTON



Sign up to City Matters to stay up to date with the latest news and events happening in YOUR city.

ROWENA SANTOS

 rowena.santos@brampton.ca

 905.874.2605


 @RowenaSantosBrampton

 @RoweSantos

 @RowenaSantosBrampton

PAUL VICENTE

 paul.vicente@brampton.ca

 905.874.2601

 @StandUp4Brampton

 @PaulVicente

 @PaulVicenteBrampton