

Building a plan together

Over the next few months, Toronto Community Housing will be working with the community on a plan to improve housing and green space and to find ways to create more recreational and economic opportunities in Alexandra Park. The plan will also look for ways to make the neighbourhood more environmentally sustainable.

The Toronto Social Planning Council started a conversation with the Alexandra Park community about revitalization last year. Working together with tenants and partners, they conducted a survey and created a document that summarized the results. This summer, Toronto Community Housing hired a consulting team that will work with residents to explore what revitalization could look like for the community.

The community event and barbecue on August 19, 2009 is a chance to officially launch the revitalization planning process in Alexandra Park and for the community to meet the consulting team that will work with Toronto Community Housing and the residents. It's also an opportunity for Alexandra Park tenants and Atkinson Co-op members to continue talking to Toronto Community Housing about what they want to see in their community.

This is the first of many chances for residents to be involved in the process. And, this is the first of many newsletters and that will help keep residents informed about what is going on with the revitalization planning process.



Coming up

WHEN: September

WHAT: Community forum to discuss the revitalization process, issues and opportunities.

WHEN: October

WHAT: Revitalization principles discussion. At this meeting participants will help to create guidelines that will be used to help draft the revitalization plan.

Things to remember

- Consultation and planning will take some time. Any construction will not start for a couple of years. And, when it does, it will happen in phases.
- All current Alexandra Park tenants and Atkinson Co-op members will have the right to live in one of the new or repaired units that happen as part of revitalization and their rent will still be geared-to-income. Households will get a written contract with this commitment. And, units will have the same number of bedrooms.
- If moving is required, Toronto Community Housing will cover moving costs.

Quick facts

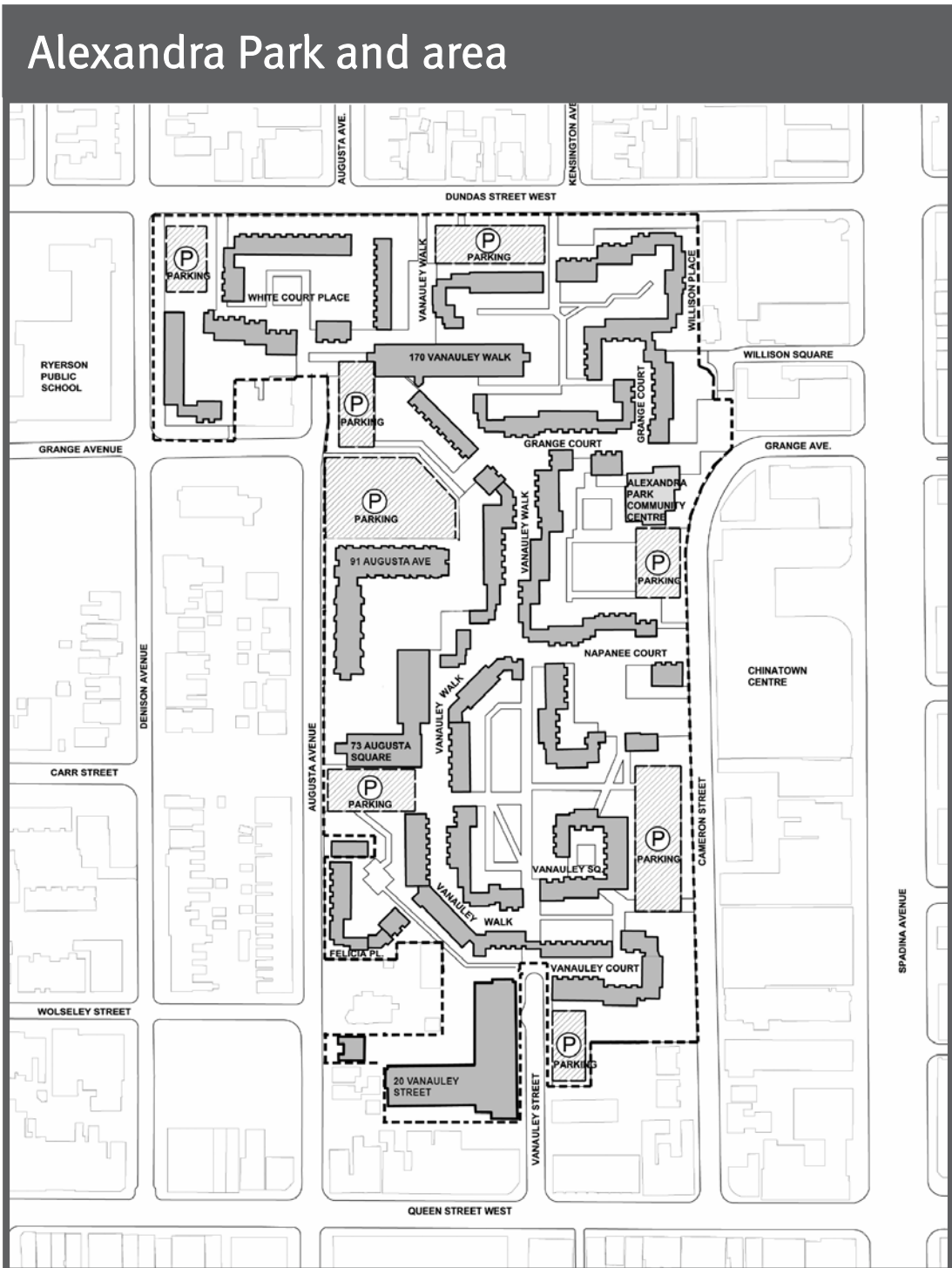
- The revitalization planning process will include Atkinson Co-op, 20 Vanauley and 91 Augusta – covering about 18 acres
- In 1994 Alexandra Park Housing was renamed The Atkinson Housing Co-operative in Sonny Atkinson's honour
- There are 267 townhouses and 539 apartments in Alexandra Park
- Over 2,000 people live in Alexandra Park
- Most of the buildings were built around 1968. 20 Vanauley was built later, in 1986

Alexandra Park Revitalization: Key people

William Mendes is the acting Community Revitalization Consultant for Alexandra Park. He will work closely with the community throughout the revitalization planning process. Leslie Gash is the Alexandra Park Revitalization Project Manager and she oversees the the revitalization.

The consulting team working with Toronto Community Housing is made up of experts and leaders in the fields of architecture, planning, urban design, landscape architecture, development and business planning, engineering and community engagement. The team will be led by Urban Strategies Inc. Other firms that make up the team include N.Barry Lyons Consulting and Public Interest.

For information about revitalization please contact alexandra.park@torontohousing.ca or 416-981-4372. For day-to-day issues Toronto Community Housing tenants should still contact their Operating Unit office or the Response Centre at 416-981-5500. Atkinson Co-op members should call their property manager at 416-504-6993.



Alexandra Park and area

Questions or suggestions for future issues?

If you would to receive future issues electronically, send us an email to let us know.

Contact us at alexandra.park@torontohousing.ca or by phone at 416-981-4372.

In upcoming issues

Look for regular community updates in your mailbox throughout the year.

In the next issue you can read more about the consultation process and how you can get involved.