

Tell us what you think about the changes to City Council

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City Council, the municipal election and ward boundary changes.

Dear Resident

A number of news articles have been and continue to be written about the imposed changes to the City of Toronto's City Council ward boundaries for the municipal election, scheduled to take place on October 22, 2018.

The new boundaries will mean that the SERRA area will be split between two wards (St. Paul's & Don Valley West), however we have every intention of keeping our residents' association boundaries as they are today and have been for more than 50 years. Our commitment is to continue representing Davisville Village and South Eglinton residents.

What we know about the changes:

According to the news release, [Ontario's Government for the People Announces Reforms to Deliver Better Local Government](#) here is what we know about the changes:

- The City of Toronto's municipal wards will be aligned with the provincial and federal (25) electoral districts.
- The number of councillors will be reduced to 25 from 47 (until recently, there were 44 councillors).
- The school board trustees for Toronto will be aligned with the new ward boundaries, but the number of trustees will not change.
- September 14, 2018 is the new nomination extended deadline for some council candidates and school board trustees.
- Previously nominated candidates will be assisted through the process to transition to the new riding ward boundaries.
- The municipal election date of October 22, 2018 has not been changed.

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) has prepared a Q&A outlining how they will be handling the changes. [Click here](#) to read more.

Some candidates have already started campaigning!

The confusion remains with respect to which candidates will run for each of the 25 new wards. The provincial government's announcement to align the wards to the existing provincial and federal ridings has created uncertainty for the candidates who had already started campaigning and knocking on doors before the announced ward boundary changes.

As a residents' association representing the large SERRA catchment area, our concern is that the reduced number of councillors will lead to extreme under-representation. The development and population increase in our area alone will make it next to impossible for adequate representation in the SERRA neighbourhood, and especially in the Yonge-Eglinton and Davisville areas.

The population in our new ward would be larger than Kingston, Ontario!

We expect the population to increase by more than ten thousand in the SERRA area alone by the year 2025, and question how one councillor can effectively support such a large constituency in a regular work week. **Our new ward would be bigger in terms of population than Kingston or comparable to Sudbury, which each have 12 councillors! It certainly makes you question the rationale behind this Provincial legislation.**

Residents may not receive the local councillor's knowledge and attention to address the unique needs of the residents living in a growing city with 2.8 million people, while other Ontario residents outside of Toronto will be unchanged.

Tell us what you think about the proposed changes!

[Take our survey](#)

Some Toronto residents are already taking action.

Many Toronto residents are signing petitions and/or contacting the Premier directly.

These are some links:

Stop Ford: <https://www.progresstoronto.ca/stopford>.

Lead Now Petition: [Hands-off-Toronto](#)

Contact the Premier by phone or email:

416-325-1941 or TTY/Teletypewriter (for the hearing impaired): 1-800-387-5559

<https://correspondence.premier.gov.on.ca/en/feedback/default.aspx>

premier@ontario.ca

doug.ford@pc.ola.org

Communications from city councillors:

City Council will be holding a [special meeting](#) on August 20, 2018 to determine next steps and whether any legal actions can be taken. The agenda has yet to be posted, but you can check the [City of Toronto website](#) for details closer to the meeting date.

In the meantime, policies prohibit city councillors from sending out any mass communications, however they may continue to post information on their websites. Councillor Josh Matlow's website is here: <https://joshmatlow.ca/>

For a list of city councillors and their contact information please [click here](#).

Some Recent News Articles:

[How would Ontario's plan to change Toronto politics work? An explainer](#)

[The legal case against Ford's assault on local democracy](#)

[Doug Ford's move to slash council barely scratches the surface of his powers, experts say](#)

[Tory forges plan to fight Ford's council cutbacks](#)

Opinion Article: [Why Toronto should go to court over Ford's proposal to truncate democracy](#)

[Former mayor David Miller on Doug Ford's follies](#)



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We send out messages to residents who have expressed interest in our community

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