

## Baby Point BIA plans parkette to combat graffiti and illegal parking

*Bloor West Villager*

The Baby Point Gates Business Improvement Area (BIA) is in the midst of a project to create a new parkette along Methuen Avenue at Jane Street, just south of Annette Street.

The site is currently a “graffiti magnet,” according to BIA vice-chair Dennis Maslo, and the curb is configured in such a way that it invites drivers to park there even though the space is an illegal spot and can result in a \$40 ticket.

It’s the largest space within the BIA’s boundaries and is crying out for some attention, Maslo told *The Villager*.

“We need a community space that looks good where people can stop for coffee,” he said.

The BIA unanimously accepted the parkette committee’s design concept at its board meeting last week. A perspective illustration can be viewed on the organization’s website. Over the next several weeks, the BIA will collaborate with landscape architects Forest and Field to add layers of details, such as plant and material types and pattern selections.

“We’re pretty thrilled with how the design is looking and what the parkette will do for the community,” said Maslo.

The goal is to create an oasis of greenery with seating and a water fountain. It’ll be a spot to decorate with Christmas lights and a place for bands to play during such events as the BIA’s sidewalk sales. Residents are invited to submit suggestions for the parkette’s name.

“Methuen Avenue Parkette is highly functional, but obvious isn’t always the way to go,” said Maslo.

The tentative goal is to have the parkette built in late summer of 2015. If you have any name suggestions, email them to [dmaslo@babypointgates.ca](mailto:dmaslo@babypointgates.ca)

The BIA hosts its Annual General Meeting Nov. 5 at the High Park Day School, 291A Jane St., starting at 7 p.m. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. There will be some seats available on the board (these are only available to merchants and commercial property owners within the BIA’s boundaries), added Maslo.

Baby Point Gates hosts a fall sidewalk sale and open house Saturday, Nov. 15. For further information, visit [www.babypointgates.ca](http://www.babypointgates.ca)



*The Baby Point Gates Business Improvement Area is working on creating a new parkette along Methuen Avenue at Jane Street, south of Annette Street. The parkette is tentatively scheduled for completion in summer of 2015.*