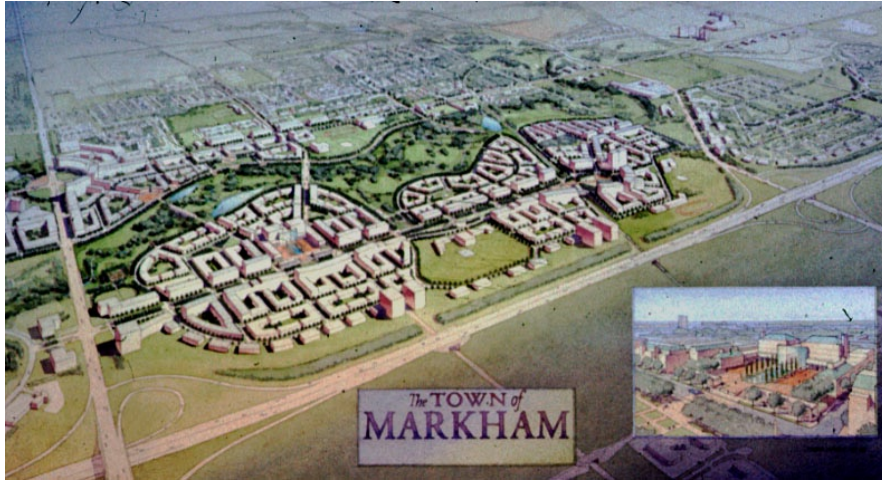


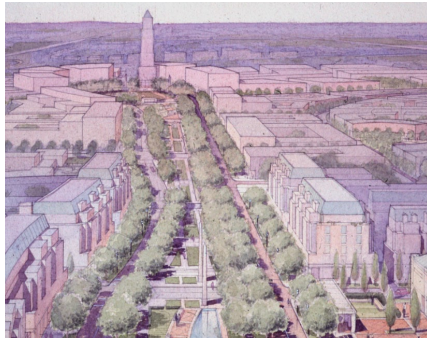
Markham Center

Toronto

D U A N Y P L A T E R - Z Y B E R K & C O M P A N Y

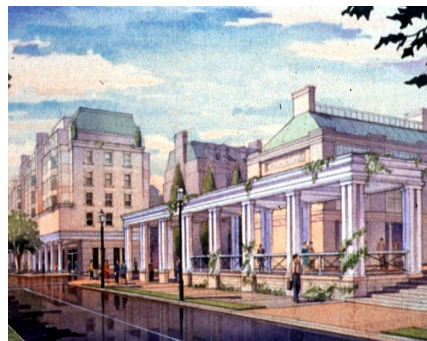


Location: Toronto, Canada
Type: Greenfield Villages and Town
Year Design: 1992
Status: Largely Complete
Size: 2,000 Acres
Contact: Mr. Lorne McCool
City Manager
The Town of Markham
905.477.7000



Appointed by the Town of Markham, DPZ organized a charrette to create a town center for this community outside Toronto. The design team included NORR Partnership, Ltd., the town's prime consulting firm, and Carlos Ott, special design consultant. The new center will be located in a 2,000-acre area already possessing immediate access to regional roads and interregional transit, as well as existing commercial, office, and hotel development.

A highlight of the plan is the creation of a civic and cultural precinct using several existing and planned facilities, including the Markham Civic Center, the Markham Theatre, Unionville High School, and a hotel. A new street will provide a pedestrian corridor for the district that will terminate in a public square.



The importance of pedestrian activity in sustaining the urban health of a community is emphasized throughout the design of the town center. Pedestrian movement is encouraged by having a broad mix of uses in close proximity to one another. Buildings are required to maintain a continuous street edge with consistent heights and setbacks to create a comfortably enclosed, walkable street. Promoting the use of public transit is also a major emphasis of the plan. Buses, high-occupancy vehicles, and rapid transit figure prominently in the layout of the town center.

The most significant natural feature in this otherwise flat site is the meandering valley of the Rouge River, which traverses the study area from east to west. Respectful of plans by the Province of Ontario to establish the Rouge Valley Park, the concept plan for Markham Center preserves the valley as a natural park.