

Hello,

Please note the following response to Application to Appear has been submitted at Sunday January 27th 2019 4:00 PM with reference number 2019-01-27-013.

- **Subject / Application**  
Item 13.1.17 cash in lieu of parkland dedication motion by Tom Muench
- **Date of Meeting (if known)**  
1/28/2019
- **Is this... (choose one)**  
Council
- **Agenda Item # (if known)**  
13.1.17
- **Name**  
Marney Beck Robinson
- **Firm/Organization (if any)**  
appearing as a resident
- **Address**  
49 Coventry Ct, Richmond Hill
- **Postal Code**  
L4C 8B9
- **Email**
- **Contact Phone**
- **Comment**  
I am a concerned citizen living in the downtown core (two blocks east of Yonge). I am not a financial or planning expert, but I stay informed about what's happening at town council. I have grave concerns that the parkland dedication amendments and changes to the downtown local secondary plan are steps backward for the community I love.

Regarding the parkland rate to be paid by developers for future residents, I believe that other municipalities in Ontario were looking to Richmond Hill and cheering on our legal battles for our progressive rate of parkland creation. It seems to me this new parkland motion proposed in committee would be

relinquishing our hard-fought right to set adequate parkland rates to be paid by developers for the enjoyment of future — and current — residents.

Greenspace and parks are consistently shown in surveys to be aspects of living in Richmond Hill that residents rank as highly important. In 2014, the Conference Board of Canada heralded Richmond Hill as the sixth best place in Canada to live and work - and high quality of life was a key consideration, with Mayor Barrow quoted as crediting our “neighbourhoods, theatre, Mill Pond and park openings”. In the town’s resident satisfaction survey unveiled in 2017, 89 per cent of those surveyed approved of the town’s parks, open spaces & pathways, and “parks and open spaces” was one of the three top reasons people liked living in Richmond Hill (second only to location and amenities).

I fervently hope that more than just two councillors will oppose this regressive parkland motion and show that our trust in our elected officials is not misplaced.