

From: Ricki Letofsky

Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2020 3:02 PM

To: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>

Subject: 38- and 43-storey towers proposed at Yonge and 16th in Richmond Hill

My husband and I have been residents of Richmond Hill for more than twenty-five years. I have worked in Richmond Hill for the YRDSB for most of that time, as well.

We are appalled the City is even considering this absurd proposal.

I work less than four kilometres from where I live. The traffic, even prior to the start of the Viva Yonge Street Construction Project, is far too congested. It used to take 7 minutes to travel to work. Now the sheer volume creates a bumper-to-bumper line no matter where one travels.

Heading north on Yonge Street for my very short ride to work is often completely stalled by southbound traffic turning east on Elgin Mills. I had to call the Region and the City because no one was paying attention to the timing of the traffic lights. The fact that Richmond Hill still has a level railway crossing; and done absolutely nothing to elevate it, is pure laziness; short-sighted; and greed.

I am sure more money will be gained by having two towering structures in place of (almost) nothing to provide construction tariffs and tax monies from the thousands of people who will be then owning, living and working in these buildings.

At what point does Richmond Hill say 'quality of life outweighs money gained'? The School at which I work is overcrowded. The small street on which we live has more than one single family dwellings turned into multi-family housing (against by-laws). Our street has less than ten houses! The stress on our infra-structure is already enormous because no one enforces the single-family dwelling by-law.

We see the strain caused when all by-laws aren't enforced. If Richmond Hill can't keep up with it's population now, what will happen when thousands more pour into this City. We have rats in our backyard from neighbours' yards with garbage; multi-recycling and garbage containers strewn about; roads in terrible shape from construction; construction of huge homes tying up residential neighbourhood streets; leaves not picked up; waste blown onto yards; too many cars speeding through residential streets; and over-crowding blocking small streets when parked.

The new subdivisions on the west side of Bathurst are the same. Huge homes with multiple families. I just know these new TOWERS will be crammed with people; more than likely multi-families, adding to more congestion and over-crowding in what used to be a beautiful town.

I would rather have my taxes raised (proportionally) than to see skyscrapers in this City. You're taking away from it's intrinsic beauty; the wildlife has nowhere to go; there are less trees; flowers; and birds. Our once quiet street is now used as 'by-way' to circumvent Yonge Street. Cars speed; do not pay attention to traffic signs and signals; and pedestrians are ignored. The YRP are dealing with a rise in crime, so they cannot police every residential street corner. Every person who lives in these proposed TOWERS will have a vehicle. That is at least two vehicles for every unit; and I know that is a minimal estimate. The pollution levels will rise.

Accordingly, I cannot think of one good or positive reason to build TOWERS on Yonge Street or anywhere else in Richmond Hill. The entire City is already ugly with condominiums; and far too congested.

Please consider this as your authority that I wish to be included as an interested party and for my comments to form part of the public record.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) R. Letofsky

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