

From: Vaaraki Wijayaraj
Sent: Monday, June 15, 2020 10:52 AM
To: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>; Jeff Healey <jeff.healey@richmondhill.ca>
Subject: Plea to stop construction

Dear Mayor & Councilors,

I am a Richmond Hill Hindu Temple Devotee and Life member. I am opposed to the condo high rise building at 0 Elgin Mills road east (Bayview ave & Elgin mills). Our Temple Towers were architecturally designed in accordance with Hindu scripture & the spiritual significance of the Towers great height to practicing the Hindu faith. The northeast portion of the property contains wetlands and a natural heritage system associated with a tributary of Rough River will be affected by pollution due increase in traffic & high-density population. The high density also increases traffic in the area. It also increases crime in that area. Hindu women & children wear jewelry during the festival times to the Temple & that is our tradition. Richmond Hill Hindu Temple is the largest Temple in North America.

While we are extremely thankful to our Richmond Hill Mayor & Councilors for allowing us to practice our religion. We now fear that high-rise condo towers will disturb the importance of maintaining peace around the Temple. Most of the Hindus fear if the High-rise condo builds higher than our Temple Tower which is against our belief (as a shadow should not be cast upon the towers of our temple - according to our beliefs). This is a bad omen and will strike unrest and sorrow in the hearts of our community.

I hope the Mayor & the councillors are able to understand our feelings and stop this high-rise condo building & prove once again that Richmond Hill is an all-encompassing and multicultural society that allows us to practice our religion according to our belief.

Thank You,
Vaaraki