

**From:** [Shivani Vijayanathan](#)  
**To:** [Clerks Richmondhill](#); [Jeff Healey](#)  
**Subject:** 0 Elgin Mills Road East – City file D03-20003  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 17, 2020 10:46:25 AM

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Dear Mayor & Councillors,

I am a life member at Richmond Hill Hindu Temple, located at 10865 Bayview Avenue. I am opposed to the condo high rise building being built at 0 Elgin Mills Road East (Bayview Ave & Elgin Mills). Our temple towers were architecturally designed in accordance with Hindu scripture & with respect to the spiritual significance of the towers' great height to the practicing of the Hindu faith. The northeast portion of the property contains wetlands and a natural heritage system associated with a tributary of the Rouge River. This will be affected by an increase in pollution due to an increase in traffic and a denser population. This high-density population will also be responsible for an increase in traffic and crime rates. Hindu women & children wear jewelry during festival times to the temple as it is part of our tradition. Richmond Hill Hindu Temple is the largest temple in North America. We thank our Richmond Hill Mayor & Councillors for allowing us to practice our religion. Now, we fear that the high-rise condo towers will disturb the importance of maintaining peace around the temple. Most of the devotees' fear that the high-rise condo will be built higher than our temple tower which is against our belief. As a result, we fear that our children & grandchildren will not be able to practice our religion in the same manner that we practice our religion. I hope that the Mayor & councillors understand our feelings and help us in stopping the construction of this high-rise condo building. We hope they will support us in proving that Richmond Hill is a multicultural society & will allow us to practice our religion according to our beliefs.

Thank you,

Shivani Vijayanathan  
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