

From: Jonathan Singer

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 5:09 PM

To: Clerks Richmondhill clerks@richmondhill.ca

Subject: Public Feedback for inclusion in 3/24 Council Public Meeting (Item 3.1)

To Whom it May Concern:

Kindly include my following remarks within the documentation that will be provided provided with regard to Agenda item 3.1: SRPI.21.029 – Request for Comments for the Council Public Meeting on the evening of Wednesday, March 24.

Thank you.

Dear Councillors and Attendees,

Thank you for your kind attention, as you consider the public response to the proposed development regarding the proposed development at Arnold Crescent and Major Mackenzie Dr.

I wish to take this opportunity to communicate my deep concerns over the proposal, as a resident who lives approximately 400m away from the site in question.

I am struck by the scope of this project, and believe that it will prove profoundly disruptive to the neighbourhood, including visually, culturally and environmentally. I also believe that it will severely impact traffic density in the nearby streets and potentially threaten road safety (I refer here to Arnold Crescent, which features a “blind downhill turn” north of Major Mackenzie, on which I have lost control of my vehicle in the winter).

As a resident, I am saddened by the prospective impact that a high-density high-rise complex would have over the neighbourhood’s skyline, including issues of sun and shadow. I am concerned by the seeming lack of green space, parks, or playgrounds on the site. I’m also concerned about the impact of the residents of an additional 790 units on the area’s livability, including traffic, hydro, and other utilities.

I also do not know whether the area provides adequate commercial activities to satisfy the immediate needs of the residents, or whether the residents would end up compelled to own cars in order to, say, purchase groceries (thereby nullifying the purpose of situating the development close to a prospective transit hub.)

Above all, I am struck that this proposal **seems to make no effort whatsoever to provide benefit to the surrounding area.** The application outlines several ways in which the town is being asked for accommodation (through amendments to its Official Plan and by-laws), but the proposal seems to make no accommodation in return, in respecting the existing policies, culture, or land use of the area.

I believe that the proposed design completely ignores the surrounding neighbourhood, and its proposed size and scope is so large as to indicate complete indifference to its

surroundings. I find it noteworthy that the proposal aims to redesignate part of the site from Neighbourhood to Local Development Area -- that strikes me as fundamental to the proposal: **Development, to the detriment of the Neighbourhood.**

I note that the proposal would require several amendments to the Land Use plan and by-laws, and I ask that you consider why those terms of that Plan and those by-laws exist in the first place: To promote the responsible, thoughtful use and development of the Town's land in a manner that benefits its residents. I believe that this proposed project does not meet that standard.

I thank you for this opportunity to share my opinions on the proposed development.

Yours truly,

Dr. Jonathan Singer

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