

From: Arul Myles M

Sent: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 8:52 AM

To: Castro Liu <castro.liu@richmondhill.ca>; David West <david.west@richmondhill.ca>; Greg Beros <greg@gregberos.com>; Joe DiPaola <joe.dipaola@richmondhill.ca>; Tom Muench <tom.muench@richmondhill.ca>; Carmine Perrelli <carmine.perrelli@richmondhill.ca>; Godwin Chan <godwin.chan@richmondhill.ca>; karen.cileviltz@richmondhill.ca

Cc: Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>; Lena Sampogna <lena.sampogna@richmondhill.ca>

Subject: Fwd: 0 Elgin Mills Road East

Dear Mayor and Councilors,

I am a Hindu devotee of the Richmond Hill Temple Society. I am currently life member, trustee and public Relations chair of the Temple. I strongly oppose the proposed Condo High Rise building located at 0 Elgin Mills Road East (Bayview Ave & Elgin Mills Road) in Richmond Hill.

Our Temple Towers are architecturally designed in accordance with the Hindu Faith and are tall structures to symbolize "god's house" and present devotees near and far to be able to see and pray and pay respects to the gods. The NE portion of the property contains wetlands and a natural heritage system associated with a tributary of Rouge River will be affected by the pollution from increase in traffic and the high density population that will come as a result of these condos. The population increase will also contribute to higher crime rates as with any growing urbanized neighborhoods, something that is of significant concern to the devotees and their families. As part of our traditional attire, the Hindu women and children do wear jewelry during the festival times as part of carrying on traditions. As a result, we are concerned with the theft and crime that may result from additional traffic and visibility through this proposal.

We would like to thank our Richmond Hill Mayor Vice Mayor and Councilors along with the Canadian Government to enable practicing our religion, but now we fear that the high rise condo will disturb the importance of maintaining peace around the temple and the potential blockage of view of our temple towers by devotees that were previously visible which would impact generations to come as well.

I hope you will consider the multicultural society that we live in while still recognizing that population growth is inevitable to find a middle ground to this. We are not rejecting the increase of population dense dwellings, but rather do not think that a high rise condo in this area is fair to both the religious, environmental and criminal impacts to our amazing city.

We consider this to be a very serious issue and is currently top of mind and virally circulated across the Hindu devotees in the GTA. I strongly encourage you to please reconsider this and help uphold what's best for all parties in the issue, including the environment.

Regards,

Arul Myles Mylvaganam

Public Relations Chair

Richmond Hill Hindu Temple

--

Arul Myles Mylvaganam