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Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 10:21 AM
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Subject: Yonge-407 Transit Oriented Community Sites

The proposed Bridge and High Tech TOC developments constitute a planning disaster for Richmond Hill.

On their face, they will stand as a monument to profits over people, the private sector greed over the public interest.

The implications for the liveability and sustainability of genuinely human and humane communities are hideous. While high density may have certain attractive and even necessary features, psychological studies over overcrowding in rats, let alone members of our species are well known. The political incapacity to provide minimal necessary social services, and the economic insanity of creating a huge toxic mass upon the body politic are nothing less than cancerous. The results will be deadly. The promises of benefits will be unfulfilled. The future will be that of the South Bronx.

The current Government of Ontario is challenged in its arrogance and mendacity only by the record of the previous no-longer-progressive Conservative government of Mike Harris whose lasting legacy remains the monstrosity of a unified City of Toronto (duly halved in terms of democratic representation by the current Premier in an act of petulant revenge against the citizenry for losing faith in his foolish brother).

Mr. Harris traded his political office for personal profits in exchange for the health, comfort, and the very lives of citizens in private long-term care facilities; who knows what the current premier's "pay-off" will be for deforming whole communities?

By bypassing the *Ontario Planning Act* and imposing the will of the lucrative development industry upon the residents of Richmond Hill (to say nothing of other offences against both people and the natural environment from the foolish "Ontario Line" subway to the "unlucky" Hwy 413), the current premier's obsession with TOCS and EMZOS as authoritarian cudgels to beat back the people and their representatives shows more plainly than anything his contempt for the people he purports to represent.

It is *not enough* for the City Council or Richmond Hill to express polite dissent from specific attacks on democracy and subversion of the future of our municipality. I call on this Council to take every legal, political, and public action possible to express outrage at the callous indifference of the current provincial government. Richmond Hill residents are the victims of a provincial government which assumes its temporary power can be used with impunity to enrich its allies and purchase the passivity of the people with sticker rebates and phony promises of a "buck-a-beer." Councillors who fail to speak for their constituents can expect to have their support stripped in the forthcoming Fall election.

In your own interests and in the interests of your constituents, you *must* speak out forcefully and effectively to condemn what the current premier is doing in what we can only hope to be his last six weeks in office to shore up his alliances with wealthy private interests to take one final slap in the face of the people, forty percent of whom enabled his "majority" government.

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