

From: Lui Di Matteo

Sent: Sunday, May 8, 2022 2:34 PM

To: Clerks Richmondhill clerks@richmondhill.ca ; Stephen Huycke stephen.huycke@richmondhill.ca

Cc: David West david.west@richmondhill.ca ; Gabriella Di Matteo

Subject: Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw proposal for changes by Richmond Hill Jewish Centre - City Files D01-16001 and D02-16007

Dear City of Richmond Hill Council and Stephen M.A. Huycke,

My wife and I, the owners of 86 Stockdale Cres., directly across the street from the subject properties would like to address council on this matter.

My wife and I are adamantly opposed to the proposal that would allow a religious centre and day care directly across the street from our home. This would negatively impact the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of our home where we have happily lived for over 31 years and raised our two sons.

A religious centre and daycare would cause a considerable increase in traffic, noise, and pollution on Stockdale. The visitors to the Religious centre and Day Care centre would use Stockdale for parking and u turns and create dangerous conditions on a small residential street often used by residents and their children. Our family and any visitors to our home would face dangerous traffic risks coming out of their driveways onto Stockdale. This already has been happening for the last 10 plus years as Rabbi Zaltzman, who is the owner of those properties, and has been running a Shul without the required City permissions.

Stockdale is a quiet neighbourhood street with many of its residents living there for decades. We feel that Stockdale neighbourhood is no place for a religious centre and day care that would impose high traffic demands on an area that is not suited or designed to handle those high traffic patterns.

Especially concerning is the proposal to allow traffic to flow from Bathurst into the religious centre and day care, and out onto Stockdale. Our home, directly across the street from the religious centre and daycare where outbound driveway is, would suffer from the increased volume of traffic, noise, pollution, and strangers walking through this area. The added foot traffic from people parking on Stockdale walking to the Religious Centre and Day Care would introduce a security and safety concern to us and our property.

Rabbi has been operating the Shul for over 10 years and we don't believe he has any permits for doing this. During this time there are many occasions and events at the Shul that bring many cars onto Stockdale where visitors to the Shul are parking on both sides of the Street all the way up to Hart St. This causes a very dangerous condition

on the street as residents that live on Stockdale do not have enough room to back out of their driveways and their vision is impaired by those cars that are sometimes partially blocking their driveway.

For the time that Rabbi has lived on the Street he has never shown any due regard or consideration for his neighbours on Stockdale. Often garbage is left strewn all over his property from the activities of the Shul. The garbage from the property is not properly handled. It often is put on the street for garbage pickup in a haphazard way. The bins and recycling containers are left out on the street for the whole week until next weeks pickup. Winds blow the bins all over the street and Rabbi does not pick them up.

Activities from events from the Shul often involve many people gathering in the back yards of those two properties, sometimes going late into the night with loud music and crowd noise disturbing surrounding residents.

The houses on 89 Stockdale (where Rabbi lives) and 9699 Bathurst (where Rabbi operates the Shul) have deteriorated to a dilapidated state while Rabbi has been living there. There are shingles and eaves that have come loose on both house's roofs that Rabbi has neglected to fix for years. The fence on 89 Stockdale has blown over from strong winds recently because Rabbi has neglected maintaining the fence. He has not even removed the damaged fence. Every year in spring and early summer Rabbi lets his grass and weeds grow waist high. He neglects to cut his grass causing many of the residents to call the City of Richmond Hill to have them come out and cut the grass.

Both of the properties are an eyesore on the neighbourhood since Rabbi has lived there. The residents of Stockdale have lodged many complaints about the state of the properties and call bylaw for parking issues frequently, caused by visitors to the Shul, but it keeps happening.

An application for these changes and amendments were made by Rabbi several years ago and the Stockdale residents attended council meetings sent emails and letters to Council to voice their opposition. This stopped the changes and amendments at that time but now years later it has come up again. Nothing has changed in those years to prove that Rabbi is responsible neighbour who is considerate to his neighbours and takes care of his properties and controls the activities he is running with the events at the Shul. In fact, it has become much worse. We don't understand how the City of Richmond Hill council would even entertain these changes given Rabbi's poor track record.

My wife and I understand the need and importance of places of worship and day care centres and how important they are to communities. However we feel that those places of worship and day cares should be located in areas better suited and designed to handle the increased traffic flows and parking needs.

My wife and I firmly oppose the amendments and changes that would bring a religious centre and day care directly across the street from our home and ask Council members and City staff to turn down this amendments and changes to the official plan.

Sincerely yours,

Lui and Gabriella Di Matteo

86 Stockdale Cres.

Richmond Hill, ON

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