

From: Brian Chapnik

Sent: Saturday, April 29, 2023 11:40 AM

To: Kelvin Kwan <kelvin.kwan@richmondhill.ca>; Clerks Richmondhill <clerks@richmondhill.ca>

Cc: Simon Cui <simon.cui@richmondhill.ca>; David West <david.west@richmondhill.ca>;

Subject: RE: Comprehensive Zoning By-law Project - Update

Good morning Mr. Kwan,

I received notice from Zoning Richmond Hill on Thursday afternoon of the update that you intend to present to the Committee of the Whole this coming Wednesday May 3 with respect to the progress of the Comprehensive Zoning By-law Project (the "Project"), as summarized in Staff Report SRPI.23.048. I read the staff report this morning and have several questions mainly related to timing and/or accessibility of information that I am hoping you can answer. I have copied the Clerk to include these questions with the correspondence received on this agenda item, as well as my ward councillor and the mayor, to try to ensure that these questions get answered either in advance or at the committee meeting itself, as I may not be able to attend the meeting this week personally.

1. The staff report describes the intended development of three (3) Strategic Directions Reports (SDR) which the planning department intends to have endorsed by Council. However, the staff report is not clear on when these SDR will be circulated for public review and comment in advance of seeking Council's endorsement. It is essential that an adequate review period be provided (a minimum of 6 weeks is suggested) to allow the public time to digest the proposed strategic directions and provide their comments back to the Zoning Committee and to Council well in advance of any endorsement being applied. **Please advise how many weeks in advance you intend to release the SDR prior to seeking Council endorsement.** I did download Appendix 1 to the Staff Report from the RH website (as it was not attached to the link below provided by Zoning RH) hoping that it would provide more detail on the anticipated timelines, but unfortunately it did not.
2. The staff report indicates that the SDR will be informed by several Discussion Papers, as well as the Low-Rise Medium Density Typology Study and the Centres and Corridors Typology Study. By whom are these Papers and Studies being drafted (i.e., are these documents being drafted by the planning department, or by outside consultants)? When in the context of the update process will these Discussion Papers and Studies be released to the public for their review and consideration? Will they be circulated in advance of the SDR, or merely attached as appendices? Finally, will these documents be circulated by Zoning Richmond Hill to all who have subscribed for updates to the Project? **Please advise.**
3. The staff report describes one of the objectives of the Project as "creating a Comprehensive Zoning By-law that is fully accessible online in an interactive web-based format". This is welcome news, as it is clear to all residents that Richmond Hill has "missed the boat" in entering the age of technology, lagging far behind other municipalities where such public information has been available online for some time now. I understand that other public information, such as the supporting documents filed with development applications, is also planned to be freely available soon via the implementation of a web-based system being overseen by your office. Can you please clarify if this will be part of the same online system or if there are two separate online systems being contemplated? Also, can you please advise anticipated timing to

complete the implementation of this system (or systems)? **When do you expect that Richmond Hill planning and zoning information will finally be publicly available online?**

Thank you very much for your consideration of these questions. I look forward to a reply at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,
Brian Chapnik
Vice-Chair, A Better Richmond Hill