

ADDENDUM

Item #

11

-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Kobak [REDACTED]

Sent: Sunday, September 09, 2018 11:56 AM

Subject: Minor Variance Application A146/18

Hello Mayor,

My name is Laura Kobak and I live in the older block of homes in Kleinburg. I have lived here for 23 of my 24 years of life. My parents, sister, and I have attended every Binder Twine festival in those years. As children we played soccer for the Kleinburg-Nobelton soccer club and afterward walk into town to get ice cream. This is why I remember the ice cream shop that was in the space that is now the popular Avenue Restaurant, and why I remember the many unsuccessful stores that cycled through that one building between its ice cream shop days until now. I have been to remember the times where there was no traffic on Islington, north of Major Mac. I tell you all these things because they are what I loved about living in here. These are the reasons my parents chose to live here and worked long days and sacrificed many things. Why I remember my parents eating with my sister and I at our small fisher price art table because they couldn't afford a kitchen table. This and many more are the reasons that I have disappointment in what Kleinburg has become. There are houses where there shouldn't be, too many people in certain areas, and too much traffic. I have watched as by-laws have been amended to put up structures I would not have imagined 10+ years ago. At first it made me sad but with time that feeling has turned into anger.

The reason for my writing to you is because I feel that the City of Vaughan has become much too lenient on what is allowed to occur here. I appreciate the new, young families moving in and building new homes. It's always nice to look at beautiful things. So many of these houses were built in keeping with the feel of the area - they are not excessively tall and obscure the beauty of the mature trees, they are built to match the set backs of the older homes, they do not give the feeling of being on top of one another (as is the case in almost every new subdivision in Vaughan), and most have maintained mature foliage. It is my understanding that those spending +1.3M\$ to tear down a home are doing so because of the mature area. Every real estate agent that knocks on our door asking if they can sell out house will attest to this. This area of Kleinburg, specifically, is one of the only few neighbourhoods left where lots are large, streets are wide, trees are mature, and there is a guarantee a subdivision is not going to go up in your backyard. All of these facts have been triggering me for a while but a recent letter about a "minor" zoning amendment to the lot across from my house has become too much. A 0.66 meter easterly setback? Reducing the minimum front yard set back to 6 meters from 7.5? This is not minor. This is the destruction of a beautiful neighbourhood. This is altering the rights of the people who paid a premium to live in an area they thought would be maintained as such. Most of the houses here are set back even further than the requirement and do not come close to meeting the maximum lot coverage. This application asks to extend the lot coverage to 36.24% and bring this massive structure forward, impeding the view of the neighbours; neighbours that have lived in the same house for 20+ years, who could have never imagined then that the city they pay tax to (a significant amount, might I add) would allow for a structure 4x anything in its vicinity to be erected. The answer should be no. A hard no. Changes like this will set a precedent for others. Every house will occupy too much of the lot and mature trees will be cut down to accommodate this. The laws exist for a reason. It should not be the right of the city to allow such an injustice to occur to the other home owners in the area. The city should be focusing on PRESERVING the limited mature communities that are left and NOT allow for them to be turned into the new subdivisions being built. Suffocatingly small lots, limited yard space for children to play, non-existent trees. That is not Cardish Street and that is NOT Kleinburg. I

will be attending the meeting related to this variance application. I will say all of these things to the committee. And I will not accept defeat because of more tax dollars and application fees.

I am looking forward to hearing your thoughts on this.

Warmest regards,

Laura Kobak

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