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Communication	
COUNCIL:	<u>APA 19/16</u>
<u>CW(PH)</u>	Rpt. No. <u>19</u> Item <u>5</u>

From: Marina Dykhtan [mailto:marina_dykhtan@hotmail.com]

Sent: April-19-16 9:13 AM

To: Council; Bevilacqua, Maurizio; Di Biase, Michael; Ferri, Mario; Rosati, Gino; Iafrate, Marilyn; Carella, Tony; DeFrancesca, Rosanna; Racco, Sandra; Shefman, Alan; ECDEV; Building@vaughan.ca; Policyplanning; DevelopmentPlanning@vaughan.ca; environment@vaughan.ca; Caputo, Mary; MacKenzie, John; Peverini, Mauro

Cc: info@ontarionature.org

Subject: RE: File 19-T16V001 Dufferin Vistas Ltd; 230 Grand Trunk Ave.

April 19, 2016

RE: File 19-T16V001 Dufferin Vistas Ltd; 230 Grand Trunk Ave.

Dear Mayor Bevilacqua, Council Members and Heads of related Departments:

I am the home owner of 43 Princess Isabella Court or should I say a "Citizen" of Vaughan as per your **Mission Statement - Citizens first through service excellence** in order for my concerns to be heard.

I am writing to oppose the development of 105-106 town houses on the above said site. When we purchased our home almost nine years ago, we paid a premium fee which was included in the price, as we were advised our home backed on a natural area, wood lot, protected land, ravine and other fancy terminology. Our backyard touches 230 Grand Trunk Ave. the proposed site for the 105-106 town homes, which will not be compatible with the existing single detached homes that are worth over one million dollars. This area is a deep, deep ditch and if filled will definitely cause damage to the existing homes. My house is situated near the end of the proposed protected area, and it's abundant with wild life all year long. In addition, my property has been fenced on my own lot and 2 or 3 feet were cut off from my property for the benefit of the 230 Grand Trunk Avenue as the retaining wall was installed incorrectly on my own property two or three feet into my backyard. The two or three feet of my property contain mature evergreen trees. I have purchased this property with a vision that I will support and enhance the wildlife that inhabits this area.

We have enjoyed the sights of some the most beautiful animals that are sadly on the "Ontario Endangered Species" list such as: woodpeckers, owls, turtles, frogs, foxes, snakes, insects, bats, monarch butterflies, various types of plants and trees that I have never seen in other municipalities. We are accustomed to animals visiting our garden from the neighbouring wood lot. This indeed makes Vaughan a beautiful place to live in.

Council Members, let me remind you that a few years back, when the land owner Mr. Iacobelli decided to cut down some trees on this property, he was ordered by your City to re-plant those trees. Then a decision was made (appears overnight) that this land is now re-designated as a Low Density Residential land from a natural land. Council Members, this is the same land, same soil, same trees that some of you now would like to cut down, take away the habitat of the above animals that are already endangered. So why was Mr. Iacobelli ordered to re-plant?

Has a thorough study been done (has the land been walked on inch by inch) to study the plants, insects and all the above animals? Has the Council members reviewed this study? How many of you have actually walked on this land, or seen it first hand other than on paper? You are welcome to come over and I will show you lots of animals who live and thrive among these trees.

I would like to inform my Council Members that we the home owners and neighbours were not consulted by Eagle Hills Community Association and later, were not honestly represented at the OMB hearing. Nor did we agree to this development and uprooting the habitat. How does OMB determine the usage of this land, how does it allow you to change the designation overnight? How did each of you vote on this decision? How did you make a decision without seeing my or my neighbours' signatures... you are supposed to represent us... you are to be my voice in Council! I want to remind you to think of the future election and I want to see how you protect my and my family interests now.

As per City documents, this proposed draft to build 105-6 town homes on the said property does not comply with Zoning By-law 1-88. Why would your Planning Department suggest the developer to complete a By-Law Amendment application? It is very interesting to know that a By-law could be amended to suit one's needs. Is this in the best interest of the endangered species and our community? Why is this builder favoured over the previous owner?

Also, let me remind you Council Members that part of the said land is a **Special Study Area** and a report is required to satisfy the City about various issues including Endangered Species. How did you make a decision or support to re-designate without this report?

Council Members, it is also public knowledge that the developer was publicly acknowledged for monetary contributions made to a council member/City. I believe the City has a conflict and nepotism policy. Mr. Mayor, can you say with confidence that none of your council members or his/her family members will not benefit from this development?

Mayor Bevilacqua and Council Members as a Citizen of Vaughan I do not feel that I, my family, neighbours are receiving the service that we are entitled to. City representatives were present at the OMB hearing. It is with some of your votes that the designation has been changed.

Let me remind you all that you have set out a ***VISION - A city of choice that promotes diversity, innovation and opportunity for all citizens, fostering a vibrant community life that is inclusive, progressive, environmentally responsible and sustainable.***

I feel that our City Council Members along with the planning department have failed in the environmental responsibility category. As per City **Values**: I feel that we the residents of this community are not respected, nor is there any accountability or dedication from our City representatives to carry out the Mission. Most of you have failed to protect the endangered species that have no voice and have failed the Citizens of Vaughan and residents of Princess Isabella and Grand Trunk.

I look forward to hearing from each of you as to how you intend to support the residents of Vaughan regarding this matter. I can be contacted via email: marina_dykhutan@hotmail.com.

Sincerely,

Marina Dykhutan