

Subject:

FW: Ratepayers Policy

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Item #	3
Report No.	31 (WS)
Council - June 25/13	

**From:** [frank.greco@sympatico.ca](mailto:frank.greco@sympatico.ca)

**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2013 1:47 PM

**To:** Abrams, Jeffrey

**Reply To:** [frank@heritagehill.ca](mailto:frank@heritagehill.ca)

**Cc:** Iafrate, Marilyn; Schulte, Deb; Rosati, Gino; Di Biase, Michael; Bevilacqua, Maurizio

**Subject:** Ratepayers Policy

Mr. Abrams,

**RE: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION) - JUNE 17, 2013  
REGISTERED RATEPAYER/COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION POLICY REVIEW**

Please add me to the email and distribution list for this item.

The Kleinburg Village Core Ratepayers Group (commercial property owners within the Village Core) has tried to become a recognized community group in the past. Unfortunately, because of the City wide Ratepayers policy, exclusivity of boundaries has prevented our group from becoming a registered and recognized group. Former councillors Meffe, Frustaglio and Ferri have strongly supported KARA and prevented any other groups from forming within its exclusive boundary. The Nashville Ratepayers is just one example. That policy and in particular those former councillors have prevented our group and any other group from having ANY recognition/ status at the City. This has resulted in titanic clashes between KARA and individual commercial property owners for the last 2 decades. This has further lead to several very costly OMB hearings, supported by the city, at tremendous costs to the city and the commercial property owners. The city has lost every OMB hearing within the KARA's boundaries, when the city supports the "KARA Empire". This cannot be permitted to continue in the future. KARA's opposition to redevelopment and economic development within the core has held back economic prosperity and commercial viability within the Kleinburg Village Core.

The issues in the Kleinburg Village core are vastly different from the issues in the rural or residential neighbourhoods around the core or in other areas as currently controlled within the KARA boundaries. This does not encourage civic engagement by Kleinburg Core ratepayers, because they know that KARA will say "that THEY represent EVERYONE within THEIR boundaries including the core". This is completely archaic and undemocratic. Empire Building leads to serious problems when it comes to ratepayers groups. The West Woodbridge Ratepayers conflict with Weston Downs is the tip of the iceberg.

Other groups, large AND small MUST have the right to represent their neighbourhood residents and/or businesses and/or commercial property owners. This is currently NOT possible because of the city's ratepayers policies around "exclusivity" of boundaries. This policy excludes the ability of smaller groups to legitimately represent a distinct area having distinct issues.

I would be more than happy to be part of the discussion around this issue/ item. Thank You.

Regards,

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