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Sent: Sunday, March 11, 2018 7:53 PM
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Subject: #Preserve Thornhill Woods - #Just Say No #STOP the Jaffari Village Development

To the Attention of Councillor Racco:

Please include us on all correspondence shared with the community on matters relating to The Jaffari Village Development Plans. We had asked in the past that we be included on these updates, but we have never received updates from your office.

To the Attention of Mayor Bevilacqua and Councillor Racco:

We are writing to advise you, as we did several years ago, that it is still our position that **the proposed high-density, multi-use, Jaffari Development plans, aka the Jaffari Village, must be stopped**.

Now, because the Jaffari Development proposal has been placed in front of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) <http://elto.gov.on.ca/tribunals/omb/about-the-omb/> we are once again raising our voices to you, to say: **"NO TO THE JAFFARI VILLAGE PROPOSAL"** and **urging the City of Vaughan to use all of its political power and knowledge to maintain the current character of Thornhill Woods.**

It does not matter that according to a recent newspaper article in the Richmond Hill Post, that the Jaffari working groups submitted *"at least five revisions to the original plan"*, since those revisions did not reflect a real response to the concerns that were raised by the Thornhill Woods community and the City of Vaughan. These so-called revisions actually proposed more residential units than were previously proposed, resulting in an even greater requirement for parking spaces and resulting in an increase in traffic. It should be noted that traffic is already chaotic during prime travel hours along the Bathurst Street corridor. **IF the Jaffari Village proposal is accepted in any of its reiterations, this corridor will become a traffic nightmare that we will never be able to escape from, at any time of the day.**

This rezoning issue is an important one, not only for the local area, but for the precedent it would set for the region. Planned low density zoning that was conceived to ensure a sustainable, healthy, and thriving community should NOT be changed just because it's easier and less time consuming to give in to bully tactics and working groups that refuse to hear a "NO", as a "NO".

It's time for the City of Vaughan to stand up and say loud and clear:

1. **NO to the Jaffari Village Development Plans.**
2. **NO to an increase in TRAFFIC chaos and congestion.**
3. **NO to overcrowding.**
4. **NO to health and safety issues as a result of the overcrowding.**
5. **NO to increased contaminants caused by increased vehicle traffic.**
6. **NO to increased noise pollution.**
7. **NO to increased sound pollution.**
8. **NO to the Jaffari Development Plans and Proposals which will destroy the intended and approved character and zoning of Thornhill Woods !!!**
9. **NO to destroying our lovely community, as it currently exists !!!**

As you may remember, over the years the greater Thornhill Woods community, including the Preserve Thornhill Woods Association have taken many steps to voice our position that we do NOT want to destroy the very character of Thornhill Woods, that made us want to move here in the first place.

- A. **We've signed petitions against re-zoning.**
- B. **We've repeatedly voiced our opposition at meetings.**
- C. **We've sent numerous messages to you and our ward councilors opposing the Jaffari Development proposals.**

- D. We've sent our message with our votes at the ballot box.
- E. We've also installed lawn signage to show our opposition.
- F. We've met with the media to share our concerns and position on this ill-advised development.

Now, it's up to you to be the political voice at the upcoming appeals and meetings, to ensure the Jaffari Village Proposal is denied, PERMANENTLY !!!

To encapsulate and for the public record, we are writing to advise you that we object to the proposed development, Applications #OP.13.013 and # Z.13.036 in all forms of its revisions, for the following reasons:

1. **Plan Incompatibility with Current Designated Low Rise Community:**
The proposed plan is incompatible with our current low-density community, the original neighborhood plan never included high-density residential structures and this plan is steering the area on a course it wasn't designed for when the city plans were first developed.
2. **Traffic Congestion and Related Safety Issues:**
Our neighborhood and streets surrounding the proposed zoning area are already abnormally riddled with traffic jams, motor vehicle accidents, and noise. That section of Bathurst is constantly bumper to bumper traffic and approving a development to house thousands of new residents who are not your current constituents would seriously overload our neighborhood's roads. Each month there are thousands of vehicles already speeding through our quiet roads and we cannot accommodate even more. Vehicle fatalities have already occurred within our community. We cannot allow for any more of them to occur.
3. **Overcrowding and Related Safety Issues:**
An increase in population will result in an increase in crime, as there is a correlation between these two factors.
4. **Increased Parking Needs and Related Safety Issues:**
The high density structures are not incorporating enough parking for the intended number of inhabitants. Spillover parking is already interfering with our quality of life in Thornhill Woods. An increase in parking needs that will not be met by the current proposal will create even more road rage incidents in this quiet neighbourhood.
5. **Environmental Concerns:**
An increase in population will result in an increase in pollution. The proposed development area is right along some of the most beautiful wetlands along the Don River and we cannot afford to destroy more of these necessary wetlands. Besides performing important water quality functions such as filtration, wetlands provide food and habitat for an abundance and diversity of life unrivaled by most other types of environments. Along with open water, they are breeding, spawning, feeding, cover and nursery areas for fish and are important nesting, migrating, and wintering areas for waterfowl and other wildlife. Wetlands also serve as buffer areas to protect shorelines and stream banks from erosion and storm surges, and act as natural water storage areas during floods and groundwater recharge areas. In addition, wetlands assimilate, recycle, filter and remove pollutants from water.
6. **Quality of Life:**
There is already so much noise and light pollution in our area that our quality of life, and that of the local fauna, will disappear forever.

Ask yourself, what legacy when it comes to Thornhill Woods do you want to be known for after your many years in office ?

Thank You.

Thomas Alt & Norma-Jean Alt
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