

Britto, John

From: Jeffrey Cohen <cohenj@cohenj.com>
Sent: Friday, January 24, 2014 10:24 AM
To: Britto, John; Birch, Carol
Subject: Objection to Proposed Development OP.13.013 & Z.13.036

C 15 COMMUNICATION CW (PH) - FEB 4/14 ITEM - 2

To Whom It May Concern:

Regarding files OP.13.013 and Z.13.036, the proposed rezoning of property at 9000 Bathurst Street (attachments #1 and # 2 - Ward 4); I would like to make the following objections.

Thornhill Woods is currently a quiet, residential neighborhood of town, semi-detached and detached two-store homes. The introduction of a 17 story building, where no other high rise buildings exist would be detrimental to the community for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that it would stick out like the proverbial sore thumb. It would be a concrete and glass an acronym, surrounded by brick and mortar civility.

A 205 unit building with commercial leasing at ground level would significantly and negatively impact both traffic and parking congestion in the area. As it stands today, when an event or holiday is taking place at the Islamic Center, parking spills out of their lot and consumes every parking space within a 2-3 block radius of the center, making traffic navigation around Ner Israel, Knightshade and Bathurst even more torturous.

The project would set a very bad precedent, possibly opening Thornhill Woods up for further high rise development in the future.

I was informed that when the new Islamic Center was under construction, the general contractor was cited for not having procured the necessary building permits. We witnessed the half-finished structure and construction debris lie dormant for a couple of years, before they finally were able to get the project on track. It was an eye sore and a risk factor for children who would play in the area. I have no reason to believe that this new proposed project will go any differently.

My understanding is that the mandate of the Islamic Center is to provide educational, social and spiritual programming for its constituents. I do not see how developing 17 stories of residential/commercial real estate fits with that mandate.

The following web link is a petition of concerned Thornhill Wood residents who object to this project.

<http://www.petitionbuzz.com/petitions/9000bathurst>

You will notice that there are close to 1000 signatories.

Thank you for taking the time to read this message.

Regards,

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