

Britto, John

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COMMUNICATION

CW (PH) - FEB 4/14

ITEM - 2

From: Irina Kapsh <ikapsh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2014 2:47 PM
To: DevelopmentPlanning@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Britto, John; Racco, Sandra; Furfaro, Cindy
Subject: Objection to Proposed Development: OP.13.013 and Z.13.036 Location: 9000 Bathurst Street - West side of Bathurst Street, south of Rutherford Applicant: Islamic Shia Ithna-Asheri Jamaat of Toronto

To Whom this May Concern,

We believe that as tax-payers and residents of Vaughan we have not only the right, but also the responsibility to actively participate in the decisions that shape our community. This message is to voice our strong opposition to the Applications # OP.13.013 and # Z.13.036 submitted to The City of Vaughan Council/Committee for re-zoning and re-development of property at 9000 Bathurst St. We hereby petition the City of Vaughan Planning Committee to refuse the application for the huge re-development of the above lands and development of 2 high rise buildings due to the following main reasons:

1. Lack of proper infrastructure resulting in:

- a) Congestion – Bathurst Street and surrounding roads in the proposed development area are extremely busy, have constant traffic jams, and prone to accidents; therefore, approving a development to house over thousand of new residents would seriously overload our neighborhood's roads, meaning even more cars driving through neighborhood streets in an attempt to avoid traffic jams.
- b) Parking Issues – Presently with all the parking available at the Jaffari Community Center, visitors still experience shortage of parking spaces. As a result, cars are being parked on all surrounding roads as far south as Ravel Drive and as far west as Bathurst Glen Road and beyond. The proposed development will not only significantly reduce number of parking spots as a mid-rise building is planned to be built instead of one of the current parking lots, but also add hundreds more cars needing even more parking.
- c) Overcrowding – There are thousands of residents and every square inch of land has a development. This Plan has too many proposed residences in such a small area and we do not feel safe with adding over thousand of new residents into the neighborhood from a safety services access, utilities services access, and traffic perspective.
- d) Safety Concerns - The majority of our neighborhood's residents are children. Thousands of cars speeding by our houses trying to bit the traffic not having the full view of the road because of the parking vehicles puts children in grave danger. Increasing surrounding area congestion will also increase the response time for such emergency services as ambulance, police and fire department. All of the above makes us very concerned for our family's safeness.

2. Plan Incompatibility with Low Rise Community: The proposed plan is incompatible with our current low-density community, the original neighborhood plan never included high-density residential and this plan is steering the area on a course it wasn't designed for.

3. Environmental Concerns – The proposed area is right along some of the most beautiful wetlands along the Don River. It would be a shame to destroy such a diverse landscape rich with flora and fauna. Just like it was a shame watching mature evergreen trees being cut down along Bathurst off of Ner Israel drive allowed by a previous zoning amendment.

4. Quality of Life – The time commuting in and out of Thornhill Woods will dramatically increase, not to mention additional air, noise and light pollution in our area. We honestly feel that the above mentioned development will reduce our quality of life as well as our property values. Our neighborhoods are already so dense and overpopulated that approving this development adjacent to the already approved re-zoning of the farm land by Jaffari Village would not be compatible with the community at large.

We genuinely support retention of existing zoning and strongly oppose this proposed development.

Regards,

Alexander Kapsh

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Vaughan

Concerned Vaughan Residents and Tax Payers