

To Whom It May Concern;

July 16 2018

Some of the residents of Ward 3 are having a very difficult time having our voices heard in regards to the proposed development at 100 Cumberland Ave. Many of us feel this is due in large part, to a deliberate and continued effort by Councillor Mathew Green in order to advance the project in question.

He has accomplished this by directly misleading those who oppose the project *and by poorly informing area residence of any developments**.

Several of us in opposition (to the development as proposed) attended the city hall meeting on June 19th with the intention of speaking to the full council. Councillor Green clearly expressed his disagreement with us and his support of the proposed project but reassured us, that he would make sure our concerns were heard. He then proceeded to have the meeting tabled until August. *When I expressed my frustration over not having a chance to speak, he told me we would all have another chance in August.

That same afternoon I emailed him directly and asked to be notified immediately of any changes/new developments. He never returned my email. This also happened to several other area residents who disagreed with him on this issue and subsequently followed up with emails. He simply failed to respond or update those who opposed. This is not right.

**Last night (Sun July 15) fliers were quietly (no knock or bell) placed in some of the houses in the area declaring a public meeting this Wed July 18th regarding 100 Cumberland. The majority will only discover these Monday evening after the post arrives and have 48 hours notice at best. This is a meeting which we were previously told was scheduled to be happening in Aug.

When I contacted Councillor Green expressing my confusion, he replied that the Aug date is now a planning meeting. In effect, he has already scheduled meetings to proceed and we have still yet to be heard by anyone at City Hall (other than him). This is not right.

While Councillor Green has acknowledged that many of the area residents are new to the area, he has failed to provide any adequate information on an ongoing basis. Many of whom I have spoken with were completely unaware of this project, let alone any relevant details. It is our belief that he has intentionally kept us in the dark in order to promote his own agenda with minimal opposition. This is failing the very Hamiltonians he is elected to represent. This is not right!

In Regards to the development in question at 100 Cumberland

This development has been debated for over 5 years now. Petitions and letters have been filed in opposition for many years. Several past residents have sold their homes and left the area since then and due to lack of information, many of the new owners have no idea this is happening.

I have canvassed door to door and have spoken to many of my surrounding neighbours. The main concern across the board seems to be the height increase (the current two story building is planned to be transformed into a towering 5 storey building which will completely block the escarpment view for many of the adjoining properties. For many, this view is one of the main reasons people have purchased property in this area.

In a written statement/report submitted to city council (which I obtained independently through dedicated research), this issue is touched on briefly with the following statement on pg 25 of 33-

“Staff are of the opinion that the proposed encroachments will not cause a negative visual impact on the surrounding properties and support modifications”.

Area residents strongly disagree with this and insist that the issue be re-addressed to include the legitimate concerns and opinions of current ward 3 constituents.

Please refer to the photo below. It was taken from my backyard. I am the third house from the north-east corner of Gladstone Ave & Cumberland. It is clear to see that our escarpment view (along with several others) will be totally obstructed and there will be an indisputable negative impact if this development proceeds as proposed. What good is additional housing if comes at the cost of an extremely negative and unwanted impact to current homeowners? These issues have in no way been solved by city staff. Supporters of the project have simply stated they disagree with the current local land owners and have presented this as a final conclusion in order to close the matter. This is only their opinion and for it to be accepted as the final word is completely unacceptable and undemocratic.

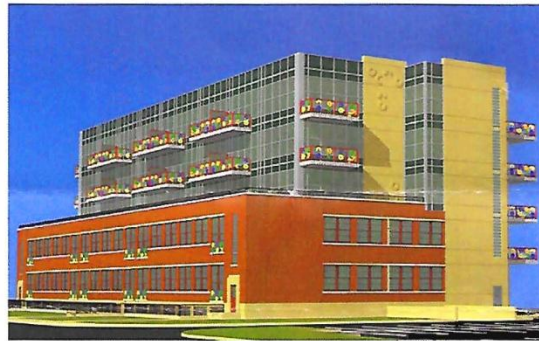
Please feel free to contact me for further information. I sincerely hope you are able to attend the public meeting this Wed. I have included a copy of the distributed flyer below.

Thank you kindly for your time, CJ Urech.



PUBLIC MEETING

PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT FOR 100 CUMBERLAND



WHEN: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

WHERE: ST. PETER'S HARRRP

705 MAIN ST E

For more information
please contact our office
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Matthew.Green@Hamilton.ca

— MATTHEW —
GREEN
CITY COUNCIL | WARD 3