

From: Sandy Price

Sent: December 16, 2020 3:05 PM

To: Van Rooi, James <James.VanRooi@hamilton.ca>; Ferguson, Lloyd <Lloyd.Ferguson@hamilton.ca>

Cc: Bob Maton

Subject: 15 Church Street

To Councillor Ferguson and James Vanrooi I have been thinking about the recent Planning Committee meeting of Tuesday December 8 and as I do this, I become increasingly disappointed and more angry at the council members who are supposedly looking out for their constituents.

I attended what I thought was going to be a council meeting to discuss the PLANS for the development of 15 Church Street. I was unaware that you had already decided to support and approve the plans of the developer before you even heard the arguments put forward by various members of the Ancaster Village Heritage Community.

This is an organization which consists of people who live in this area and will therefore be directly impacted by the ultimate decision. Other members of this organization either live in other parts of Ancaster or are former Ancaster residents.

Many of those who live in other parts of Ancaster have already been adversely affected by developers who are only looking to make money. Former Ancaster residents have many happy memories of this area because of the tennis courts, former soccer field, play equipment and the library. The addition of the splash pad increased the attraction of this area to young families.

This is the area where the Ancaster Heritage Day Parade starts and there are many activities in this area that residents are able to walk to and enjoy.

The developers don't live in the immediate area of Church Street so they will not be directly affected by any change. They are not a part of the friendly, peaceful neighbourhood that makes this area conducive to raising a young family or enjoying their retirement years.

This is an area that offers many amenities which makes it a popular destination in the good weather. As you are no doubt well aware Councillor Ferguson this often makes parking spaces disappear quickly.

This neighbourhood is made for walking, not commuters. We have a very high walk ability designation.. You, of all the people at that meeting Councillor Ferguson, have a first hand knowledge of this area. You are an Ancaster resident and your family has a long history of working to improve the lives of those of us who have chosen to live here.

Therefore I find it very puzzling as to why you would support the idea of cramming six dwellings in an area where there are currently only single homes. Why do you feel it is a good idea to tempt fate by increasing the traffic on a street where many families take advantage of the amenities that are within walking distance.

This area leads to green space and many dog walkers take advantage of this feature. It is also an area where families like to ride their bicycles, some of them with little ones either in a bike trailer or on the back of an adult bike. The addition of 6 townhouses crammed into a lot that was once home to a single dwelling will make these activities dangerous. Will it take serious injury or a death for the planning committee to realize that the current plan of 6 townhouses is not only totally inappropriate but also filled with potential danger?

As someone who has lived in this area for over 40 years I have enjoyed seeing the resurgence of families enjoying time together. You do not see this same kind of activity in areas where there is a lot of vehicular activity.

Six houses do not necessarily add up to only 12 vehicles. I am also puzzled to find out that the person who spearheaded the movement to prevent "McMansions" is now the person who is supporting the building of townhouses in a totally inappropriate location. In addition these are townhouses which will

require many zoning and bylaw amendments. I thought these laws were put in place to prevent the very action you appear to be encouraging.

Were all the variances listed and or discussed at the December 8 meeting or will we just learn of them if the current plan gets approved? If we learn of them after is this fair to your constituents. If the current plan is accepted does that mean that any and all variances will then also have to be accepted?

This will definitely set a precedence for other builders.

If this is democracy in action then I need to learn the new meaning of that word.

In closing I would like to say how extremely disappointed I was in your behaviour at this meeting Councillor Ferguson. I can't help but feel that you have sullied the Ferguson name. Even if you do not run in the next election is this really how you want to be remembered?

Sandy Price

Ancaster