



February 12, 2022

Re: Block 16 / Pier 8 – 65 Guise Street East

To Whom it may concern

The North End Neighbourhood Association (NENA) wants to advise the Committee that the Association, after review and discussion supports the concept of a 45-storey signature building on Block 16 - Pier 8 as outlined in the staff report on the agenda.

NENA wants to ensure the north end continues to be a child and family friendly neighbourhood, while also welcoming new responsible developments that follow approved policies and sensible planning. Developments need to connect and integrate into the existing neighbourhood. Allowing everyone from children and families to use schools, recreation facilities, churches and create family connections across the neighbourhood.

Our community continues to have strong discussion about development and issues affecting the community through member discussion at general meetings, various committees and people on the street.

As people are aware, NENA has consistently taken a strong position on building heights in the neighbourhood and may question our support of the proposed building. We see this building as a single signature / landmark that will bring children and families to the community, not a precedent. That needs to be understood and expressed clearly when the committee makes its decision.

After community and association discussion, NENA's support of the proposed building and staff report reflects the following points:

1. Approving this single signature / landmark building significantly lowers the development density on the rest of Pier 8 allowing housing that will attract families with children. The benefit of families to the neighbourhood will provide support to services, restaurants, education, retail and recreation.
2. Residents and community members who were part of the original appeal support the settlement and the construction of the signature / landmark.
3. Approval of the signature / landmark building will not increase the current accepted number of units on Pier 8, with the developer agreeing the total number of units will remain the same. This was a significant aspect of the earlier settlement and important reason for approval. It means once the signature / landmark building is approved traffic or the demand for parking will not increase. The earlier settlement was beneficial for everyone allowing density and family housing for our community.
4. We are dedicated to maintaining the strength and vibrancy of our neighbourhood where parents and families want and desire to live. Bringing families to Pier 8 and the north end is in clear support of our belief we are a "Child and Family Friendly Neighbourhood by the Bay".

After review and discussion NENA supports approval of the Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law as described in the staff report and being considered by the Committee and Council for approval.

Regards



Andrew Robinson  
President - North End Neighbourhood Association