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Howard Barker
143 Park St. W
Dundas, ON

September 4, 2012

Dear Mr. Powers, Mr. Thomas, and Mr. Clark,

The purpose of this letter is to express my opposition to the proposed development of 24 Brock St. N. The main point of my opposition is the tacit assumption made by some that any and all development is good for the community in which it takes place. Having lived for over 20 years within easy walking distance to the proposed site, I can honestly say that the last thing needed by the neighbourhood bounded by King, Victoria/Witherspoon, Sydenham, and Brock Streets is residential infill. Not only will development on the scale being proposed upset the visual character of the neighbourhood, it will also chisel away further at character by boosting car and truck traffic in an area already overused as a King St by-pass.

People come, sometimes from great distances, to live in Olde Dundas. It is generally recognized as an example of an increasingly rare neighbourhood. People do not come here to see Dundas become a thriving suburb. Why simply authorize the chipping away of its character for the sake of one person's capital-gains project? Does Dundas need this kind of development? How are we, as an existing community, possibly going to benefit from this? Is it simply a matter of increasing Hamilton's tax-base? If that's the only point of gain then why not just raise, almost invisibly, all existing tax bills by a few dollars?

As it stands, Dundas *needs* very little in the way of so-called development. We didn't need the proposed, and thankfully failed, storage facility, nor did we need a monster Shoppers Drug Mart, nor do we need another tower at Creekside, nor do we need the low-quality affairs that takeover King St for two weekends every year (ask the local merchants and homeowners if you don't believe me), and *we do not need*, and we certainly *do not want*, 24 Brock. In actuality, when it comes to maintenance of Dundas's character, the less development the better... we already have enough... any more and it will begin to be ruined!

Sincerely,

Howard Barker