

Planning and Development Council Meeting
December 7, 2021

Comments Received Regarding Item 6.1

Public Meeting and Recommendation Report – Zoning By-law
Amendment – Kamato Holdings Limited – 1235 Trafalgar Road,
1226-1230 White Oaks Boulevard and 350 Lynnwood Drive, File
No.: Z.1512.09, By-law 2021-049

Good evening, Board Members, fellow Oakville residents, and land developers...my name is Kate Stadelmann, and I live at Number [REDACTED] Marlborough Court, Unit [REDACTED].

From the day that I received your letter, to the day that I speak to you now, I've struggled to find the right words that would concisely articulate my beliefs on this particular project. I hope that in return for the many hours that I've spent formulating them, that you can afford me a few minutes to say them.

I've had the difficulty finding my words... because of the audacity behind the ones that you sent me. Imagine the irony; paper emblazoned at the top, "Oakville, to be the most livable town in Canada," followed by a proposal of which could be equated to cracking open an overflowing septic tank. The idea of adding 20 new stories of 200 new residents to a severely overcrowded area should hopefully make everybody sitting here self-aware enough to see exactly what a terrible idea this is.

Already, just down the block is a 6-story retirement home in throes of construction. Yet despite what a good idea this may seem to certain chequebooks; it is seen as stupidity of another scale to everybody else— why are you developing in a place with not enough room and too many people?! Why is it that the second construction is done, the second we can finally hear the birds again, you get the need to fill our ears with jackhammers? That's not how this works. That's not how any of this works. If you want to make Oakville the most livable town in Canada, you won't start by building something this.

And I would like to concede that I do see the logic of your planning. While the pharmacy that already exists is incredibly helpful and accessible, I don't see much business otherwise; and space should be utilized well, especially when it's in short demand. *But!* This does not give you an excuse to bulldoze it down and replace it with an absolute monstrosity.

There is so much more that you can do with this space instead of adding to the miserable reality of a corporate concrete jungle. You can invest in green spaces and green living – create a hub for community gardening, set up a grassy knoll for a market area, increase biodiversity. You can invest in the education of our next generations, building three story houses with the express purpose for affordable student housing. Even yes, invest in some apartments...but nothing taller than eight stories, with the first floor remaining for business and commerce, not a cold and boring dystopia of yet another condominium institution. And I recognize that city planning, and infrastructure is not my forte, but this really seems like a no brainer to me – you add *nothing* except for temporary profits in your pocketbook if you approve this. And if that's what you need, fine, but at least force them to build a green space building, a tree on every balcony, and put your car parks underground for something else than yellow lined asphalt wasteland. That is the bare minimum that you could do for our community.

For the health of your constituents, for the better of your neighbours, for the good of the planet we've been given, don't throw away this opportunity. Many before you have sacrificed what is good for what is profitable, and many more after you will too, but that doesn't mean that you have to be like them. This is a time where you must decide what trail you will travel up. You can do what is easy, or you can do what is right.

I won't be foolish enough to nurse hope, but I will be optimistic enough to believe in doing something that's better than what already exists.

Thank you.