

Appendix “H”: Pubic Comments

RE: 130 Cornwall Road, Oakville

Dear Janet and Dave, I appreciate the opportunity to provide some input on the proposed replacement of the house at 130 Cornwall with a building of 5-6 levels (it’s unclear which) housing 37 occupants. Key items:

1. LOSS OF NATURAL GREEN SPACE

Currently, the house allows full use of the natural surroundings. One has no qualms about walking on the path south of it because the feel of the path is that it belongs to everyone in the area. It provides a respite from the busy traffic on Cornwall.

A massive box of a building would feel “looming” and would – certainly for me – forever do away with the natural feel of the place. There is a likelihood that other area residents would likewise cease to use it.

A fence was mentioned as a possibility; it would be detrimental in appearance and further lessen the quality of the area.

A smaller footprint of the building (say, by slightly reducing the size of the apartments) would be a great benefit.

2. LACK OF VISUAL FIT WITH THE LOCAL AREA

The parking garage, with red and white materials for its exterior, once blended in with the Old Mill Road buildings and the Sunrise facility. Then came the hideous Metrolinx data centre, lending an industrial (Speers Road) type of look to the area. Putting yet another clunky, ungainly building across from it would further ruin the feel of a location that is now softened by the landscaping around the Sunrise facility and the proximity to the path going west from Old Mill Parkette down to the creek. The exterior coloring shown in the concept would be better suited for Disneyland and would be a visual blight.

3. CONCERNS ABOUT SAFETY FOR AREA RESIDENTS

Transforming the house from a communal residence of fewer than 10 occupants (with 7 staff) to 37 individual apartments is one way to provide more housing for persons with special needs, but the plan for only 7 parking spaces raises the question “how many staff would be on site at any given time?”. A person in need of professional care is not necessarily served by being cooped up in a small apartment all alone. It is not clear how much communal gathering space is provided for the occupants outdoors; would Old Mill Parkette become the de facto unsupervised recreational area for the building’s occupants? In such a case, I would never go near the south side of Cornwall West of Trafalgar. (No disrespect toward persons in need of support, but I value my personal safety.)

Thank you for your consideration.

Ulla de Stricker, [REDACTED]