

Planning and Development Council Meeting
May 15, 2023

Comments Received Regarding Item 7.1

Recommendation Report – Town-Initiated Official Plan
Amendment (File No. 42.24.27) and Official Plan
Amendment/Zoning By-law Amendment (File Nos: OPA 1614.80
and Z.1614.80) – Support House – 130 Cornwall Road – By-laws
2023-049, 2023-050 and 2023-051

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2023 1:26 PM
To: Town Clerks <TownClerk@oakville.ca>
Subject: 130 Cornwall Road, Planning & Development Meeting

[To: townclerk@oakville.ca](mailto:townclerk@oakville.ca)

Re: May 15 Planning and Development Meeting, 130 Cornwall Rd

I sent the information below, which pertains to 130 Cornwall Rd, to my Ward 3 Councillors and received an e-mail from Planning asking me to submit it to this address prior to the May 15 meeting. I have the following concerns about this development, as it pertains to the park and trail.

- Old Mill Park and the trail that goes through it along the riverbank is the ONLY public access to the riverbank south of the QEW, other than small cement lookouts on Randall St. and a tiny parkette (with no room for a trail) near the Kerr and Bond area. The entire riverbank is otherwise privately owned.

- I have lived across from the existing facility for 13 years and I walk the trail behind it almost every day from spring until fall, as do many Old Mill residents.

- This trail (and the sitting area in the park, *but particularly* the trail) is heavily used. I rarely enter it without running into other people using it. It is used not only by the residents of Old Mill, but by residents of west Oakville walking east, and by residents of Old Oakville walking to Kerr Village. As new developments are built in Midtown, those residents may choose to use it too (IF it is still an inviting trail).

- I have no objection to housing of this type being on this site, but if a five-story building, with a straight-up glass wall wider and taller than the current structure, is placed close to the trail it will become a dark, uninviting tunnel rather than the "naturescape" that it currently is and may no longer seem like a safe and sunlit place to walk. So, while the Town might then argue that we have not lost the trail, we will have lost the environment that it now offers so it may no longer be used.

- It is the only green space currently in Midtown and no small parkette that *may* end up being built near one of the proposed skyscrapers can replicate a riverbank with mature trees.

I am certain that the Town would not entertain a for-profit development being positioned in a way that may destroy a heavily-used, long-standing green space that is the only remaining riverbank available for public use and the only greenspace in Midtown. I do not oppose a building being built there for this use. But it *must* be placed in such a way that it is not too close to our trail and our sitting area. It also needs to be designed to be compatible with the environment where it will be the most prominent fixture.

I hope that these facts will be considered so that we do not lose the only greenspace in the area.

Jayne Huddleston
[REDACTED] Old Mill Road
[REDACTED]