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Sent: January 18, 2025 1:34 PM

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Cc: Pauline <>; John Berriman <>; Jo Ann Morello <>; Joe Brandt <>; Bill McKinlay <>;
Angela Parsons <>; Mark Steiman <>; Nicole Stuart <>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Input on Midtown Oakville proposals for the January 20th meeting

Dear Mayor and Council,

Thank you, and your staff, for the significant work that has been done to once again defend the best interests of the Town from the Province who always put forward the idea that "They, the Province, know best".

These are the same Provincial Ministers and bureaucrats who have yet to solve our significant issues with health care, education and transportation and who now want to dictate a solution to housing.

Their approach, is to eliminate our rights of appeal and to force through a solution by using a supposed arms length Crown Corporation supported by an eager developer.

The objective of the developer is simple and I can understand their objectives as their website up front reads " We are focused on bringing long-term value to our investors and partners....."

What I do NOT understand is the fixation of the individuals at Infrastructure Ontario to move ahead with this doomed to fail "Social experiment".

Too many people, in too small a space, with inadequate resources to develop a sense of community isn't a housing solution.

Rather it is reminiscent of the well documented tower blocks built in other parts of the world that devolved into vertical ghettos.

Vertical, ultra high density developments often attract investors versus owners.

Without the reality of ownership, there is less inclination for renters to stay long term, improve, or maintain their environment.

Building the wrong mix of units can also create issues with large families in small units, unoccupied units etc.

A possible outcome that I am aware of in major cities across the UK as an example, starts with graffiti, then increased crime, and finally property and neighbourhood degradation.

In the reviews and proposals from Infrastructure Ontario and the developer I've seen on midtown, the significant negative social impact seems to have been ignored or diminished.

Infrastructure Ontario is a large organization staffed by highly paid professionals and where the President earns significantly more than even our Premier. They should be doing the right thing. Therefore, their support of the current proposals defies all logic or common sense.

Possible good news, is they have just appointed new President so hopefully she can be approached to review what they are proposing to do to our town.

Midtown housing -YES, I fully support the idea.

These monster stacked concrete boxes. , - NO.

The Premier, housing Minister, Infrastructure Ontario, and the developer need to go back to working with, not bullying our Town and calmly work through a solution.

One request I have if possible, is to have the appropriate experts who can evaluate the social impact of this proposal review and report before choosing the appropriate height and density.

The current heights and density proposals are clearly unacceptable. If these proceed as currently proposed, Infrastructure Ontario, a Crown Corporation will end up looking more like a "Clown" Corporation.

Neil Huddleston