

Re: Zoning By-law Amendment Application - 65-89 Loyalist Trail (Z.1215.04)

Dear Members of the Oakville Town Council,

Thank you for your time today. My name is Majed Barhoush, and I have lived in Oakville for 15 years. Both of my children were born here, and like many families, we love calling Oakville home.

Basketball has been a passion of mine, and for the past seven years, I have been working to create a space where young athletes can develop their skills and find community. My son plays rep basketball for an Oakville team but must train in Mississauga and play games in Oshawa or Ajax. Each week, I ask: why doesn't Oakville have a facility like this?

That's why we are investing in a high-tech, community-focused basketball training center called Shoot 360, the first of its kind in Ontario and possibly the second in Canada. We chose Oakville for our flagship location because we believe our young athletes deserve access to the best training technology available.

Shoot 360 is a revolutionary basketball development system that merges artificial intelligence with real-time analytics, offering an unparalleled training experience. It provides instant feedback on shooting accuracy, ball handling, and passing, allowing athletes to refine their skills with data-driven precision. The interactive training environment makes development engaging, efficient, and measurable—giving players the tools to improve faster than traditional training methods. No other facility in the region offers this level of technology and player development, making Shoot 360 a game-changer for Oakville's basketball community.

Currently, Oakville lacks professional private basketball facilities. The only existing private court is not well maintained and serves multiple sports, failing to meet the needs of serious basketball athletes. Meanwhile, neighboring cities have multiple basketball facilities supporting strong competitive programs, putting Oakville's young athletes at a disadvantage.

One of the biggest challenges has been finding a space that meets the necessary requirements: a minimum 25-foot clear height, a minimum length of 100 ft, and a 51-foot column span. After seven years of searching, 89 Loyalist Drive is one of the very few suitable locations, making it a rare opportunity to bring a top-tier basketball facility to Oakville.

Oakville has the talent and demand for this facility. I urge you to support this initiative and help provide young athletes with the opportunities they deserve. This facility will not only enhance local sports development but also strengthen Oakville's reputation as a community that invests in youth and athletics.

I welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and make this vision a reality. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Majed Barhoush