

Hello Councillors,

I am writing with concerns for the homeless hub placement, and I oppose this location for the mentally ill and addiction hub. How this location was ever picked is beyond me, as there are 5 schools in walking distance, and it is directly right beside a toy store. There are plenty of studies proving that these hubs are unsafe, and crime increases in the areas they're located in. I understand you want to clean up the downtown area, but you are stripping these individuals from their communities, with negative adverse effects our communities.

A hub was tested in Toronto, at the Roehampton Hotel, which is surrounded by family residents, and the crime in their neighbourhood skyrocketed by 30%. Autothefts spiked by 225%, robbery by 100%, sexual violence by 175%, theft by 150%, and break-and-enter by 76.5%. If you would like further details, contact Deputy Denzil Munnan-Wong, he represented the Ward in the above mentioned Toronto neighbourhood.

I absolutely can empathize with these individuals that are struggling, and I wish them all the best. However, statistics can argue, this emotional handout/quick fix is not going to help in a way that is truly needed...other than clearing up the downtown area of 40 people. Creating hubs is not the answer, mental health facilities to alleviate our hospitals and communities are the answers. All the hubs are, is simply a bandaid, on a much larger seeping issue. These people deserve better support, not a bandaid...no matter how pretty it looks.

I encourage you to do the right thing, and not allow this in our communities.

Stephanie Kennedy