

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – 335-385 and 340-390 Saskatoon Street (OZ-8883)

- Laverne Kirkness, Kirkness Planning Consultants – introducing the owner, Robert Isaac, and Rob Secco from SDI Construction and Sue Hillis from Dale Brain Injury Services; expressing appreciation to M. Campbell, Planner II and M. Tomazincic, Manager, Current Planning, for working with them so closely because this is a very unique situation; advising that they have two thirty-thousand square foot buildings built around 1955, owned by Mr. Isaac for approximately fifteen years and most of the building was occupied by Auto Data who has relocated because they needed more space in what they know as the old Bell building at Talbot Street and Dundas Street; indicating that they are Downtown and happy; pointing out that the problem with the two buildings is the zoning, they have this R2-3 Zoning Residential which is of no practical value but it does implement the policy framework to some extent and then they have this LI-8 existing industrial zoning permitted use thing which is very unclear and uncertain so they are coming to the Planning and Environment Committee to ask for more certainty and basically asking for support offices, Auto Data type offices; stating that Mr. Isaac has a buyer for the west block, the 335 to 385, Rob Secco of SDI Construction who has a tenant that happens to be Dale Brain Injury Services; noting that this seems like a perfect fit, a match made in heaven as they are rezoning the property to support offices but if you could add charitable not for profit offices, they could find a new location, a much better location, really, a more central location for Dale Brain Injury Services organization; stating that the east side, they do not have a tenant so the charitable offices are not going to happen there, there is no need at this point but they will have the support offices but there is also some existing tenants, a Pilates studio on the east side and warehouse and also on the west side the auto tire dealership which they simply want to protect because they have been there for ten years or more and doing well and not creating any problems; indicating that to find these two buildings of each around thirty thousand square feet and to give them a more definite, specific zoning that requires a Chapter 13 policy makes so much sense, he thinks there is public interest served as well because the neighbourhood now knows more about what existing industrial uses are; expressing agreement with the staff report; hoping the Planning and Environment Committee support it and recommend it to Council so that they can get on with their progress and next steps for Dale Brain Injury Services.