

The Planning and Environment Committee,
City of London

28 January 2024

Re: Proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments OZ-9661

Dear Members of the Planning and Environment Committee:

Doreen and I have resided at [REDACTED] since 1996.

We greatly enjoy living in Broughdale. We are now both Professors Emeriti after lengthy careers at Western. I am very grateful to the senior colleague who advised us, when we arrived in London, to save money (and the environment) by not buying a second car and to keep in shape by walking to work. Our home backs on the Thames River and, particularly since the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, we have greatly enjoyed walks in the river valley, especially the loop created by the new pedestrian bridges at Ross Park and the North London Athletic Fields. We also delight in our proximity to downtown, the trip to the Grand Theatre or the Covent Garden Market usually takes less than ten minutes. And the public transit between Western and downtown London, particularly the No. 90 express bus, is excellent.

As a member of the Broughdale Community Association Executive Committee, I contributed to the response submitted on January 8th to Planning Staff on the proposed amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-laws. I write now to emphasise my strong support for the proposal to retain the five-bedroom limit in London's Near Campus Neighbourhoods for all types of housing, with the exception of Richmond Street. Richmond is clearly an arterial road – I know because I often try to jay-walk across it on my morning trip to campus – and allowing some intensification there to relieve the demands on the inner Broughdale neighbourhood seems desirable.

Some seem to have a vision that the area around Western University should be primarily used to house students. I feel differently: while it is true that the percentage of permanent residents in Broughdale has dropped since we moved here, there are still quite a few of us around. And we are a vibrant community – historically we have held celebrations to welcome new residents to our street and organized travelling dinners. It can take Doreen and me a half hour to navigate the block between Richmond Street and our home on a spring afternoon, with our neighbours all out in their front gardens and wanting to chat.

Please maintain the 5-bedroom limit in Broughdale!

Yours respectfully

Michael Bartlett

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c.c. BroughdaleCommunityAssociation@gmail.com