

Lysynski, Heather

From: mary lake-collins
Sent: Wednesday, December 07, 2011 3:34 PM
To: Lysynski, Heather
Subject: Presentaion to the Planning & Environment Committee Meeting Mon. Dec.12th

Hello Heather,

Could our presentation please be included in the agenda for the Meeting Monday Dec.12th of the Planning and Environment Committee.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Mary Lake Collins

Presentation to the Planning and Environment Committee

Monday December 12th 2011

Rezoning of 1607 – 1653 Richmond St.

From Robert and Mary Lake Collins owners of the Heritage Property at 1603 Richmond St. directly south of this proposed zoning change.

History

1603 Richmond St. was built by Scots-Irish United Empire Loyalists in 1843. We look forward to celebrating its 170th birthday in 2 years time. It has been a designated heritage structure for approximately 28 years. When the Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committee wrote up the house's history it was described as being the oldest brick house in the City of London. Most of Masonville subdivision is built on what was the farmland attached to this house. We work very hard to preserve this heritage house and grounds in a way commensurate with its historic significance.

Since purchasing the house in 1982 we have seen constant change around us. Situated as it is on what was even a highway back in 1843 we expect change. We certainly also hope that the change that occurs is done in the very best way possible. As Richmond St. is the main northern gateway to the City of London we are sure that everyone is conscious of the importance of its positive visual impact. We appreciate our councilor Matt Brown & the present Planning Department involving the neighbourhood in many discussions regarding this rezoning, as this is a HUGE change for our block. We support the increased density and height proposed for the land north of us. To encourage the neighbourhood to go along with this huge increased density what was proposed was that any new buildings on the rezoned land would be 15m from the existing property lines. In 1993 the 4 condo development to the south of us was approved based on plans provided to the neighbourhood & when we returned from a family vacation found that it had a room constructed far closer than was allowed. The city response at the time was that it was a fait accompli & therefore couldn't be changed. As you can imagine we are therefore quite concerned that all rules for this new development be properly followed.

Our Request

We request the full 15m set back from our property line, consistent with the other set backs for houses on Cherokee. We request that this set back not include a driveway as has been mentioned as a possibility. The 15m buffer should be consistently applied to this development.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Mary Lake Collins