

From: Michael McAlpine
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 9:23 AM
To: Wilson, Stephanie
Cc: Baechler, Joni; Fontana, Joe; Hubert, Paul; Polhill, Bud; White, Sue; Henderson, Dale; Bryant, Judy
Subject: SP13-039285 350 Oxford Street East

Hello,

I am writing to express my concerns about the proposed plaza at 350 Oxford St. at the corner of Waterloo. I have two issues that should be taken into consideration.

Issue #1, Heritage Districts and future job growth.

I agree 100% with the concerns expressed by the Bishop Helmuth Community Association. The proposed plan does not present a site that fits with a Heritage District. Heritage Districts are rare and should be preserved. They are a precious feature of our community and once they are gone, they are gone.

While development is a source on money and jobs in the short term, in my mind, making London an attractive place for residents is a better source of long term jobs and growth. The greater path to growth is through internally created business. Having beautiful neighborhoods close to the core is what draws talented entrepreneurs to our city and keeps the best minds from Fanshawe and Western here after they graduate - it was a major factor in my decision to stay and raise a family with my wife after graduating from Western.

Great business minds with brilliant ideas that will spark the next major job source will be successful anywhere they want to live - let's make London the place they want to be by preserving our beautiful homes and neighborhoods.

Issue #2, School Safety

My second concern is more personal. I live on Piccadilly St. and my son walks to and from St. George's PS every day. He walks with several friends and there are crossing guards at Colbourne and Oxford. I am glad he walks and I currently feel that he is very safe doing so. I am very worried that with the presence of a plaza at this corner there will be an increase in traffic on Waterloo St. at the entrance that my son will be crossing every day.

Can you please tell me what steps are being taken to ensure the safety of the many, many children who walk south from St. George's each morning, afternoon and lunch hour? I have cc'd Councillor Bryant on this email. I am aware that she is not on the P&E committee, but this issue is of some concern for the residents of Ward 13.

I will be attending the meeting on February 18th. I hope these concerns will be addressed.

Michael