

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING - Properties located at 633, 635, 637, 645, 649, 651 and 655 Baseline Road East (OZ-8711)

- Brian Blackwell, Stantec Consulting, on behalf of the applicant – expressing support for the staff recommendation; thanking staff for working with them on this application; indicating that the plan in front of the Committee has evolved from their initial application; advising that they have worked with staff on where the building should be located, the setbacks, the building design, the height of the building, the podium, the elevations fronting onto Baseline Road East, they have completed a TIA, which has been approved by staff, they had an open house on May 31; noting that Ms. S. Wise, Planner II, was at that open house; advising that they worked with the Engineering Department on sanitary and stormwater; believing that this development fits the community. (See attached presentation.)
- Gina Kapusovic, [REDACTED] – indicating that she has spoken with a number of her neighbours and unfortunately none of them showed up; expressing concern with the building height; advising that, initially it was ten stories, went down to eight storeys; believing that the allowed height with the current by-laws and zoning is four storeys if she is not mistaken; pointing out that eight storeys is double that amount; pointing out that there is a two storey podium where it will not be as much in the forefront towards the street as the initial proposed plan; however it is still going to be a very large eye sore to the community; realizing that retirement living, seniors living is needed but she has looked online and she has seen other communities by Seasons Retirement that are not as large; hoping that the height of the building can be scaled down; expressing concern with traffic as trying to turn left off of Balderstone Avenue, which would put you east towards Wellington Street is dangerous at times, specifically in the afternoon between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM; noting that there have been several near accidents with the way the traffic currently is; asking that, if this application is approved, perhaps there could be some traffic initiative put in, another stop sign or traffic lights; expressing concern with their property values as there are a number of residents that have taken great care in their properties, done a lot of renovations to increase their property value and with something this large coming into the community, they are afraid that their property values are going to go down; stating that they love living in the Old South; noting that they are on the outskirts of the Old South but still it is the Old South; indicating that they like the single family units; advising that there are some multi residential units, smaller apartment buildings, but they blend in with the landscape; believing that this particular building, in her opinion, would not blend in with the landscape given its size, particularly the height.