

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Application – 723 Lorne Avenue (former Lorne Avenue Public School site) (Z-8454)

- *(Councillor J. Helmer indicating that Ms. M. Knieriem, Planner II, mentioned that the roadway itself is not really being dealt with in the zoning but the idea is to minimize traffic onto the existing Queens Place; is the implication of that the idea is to have a two-way road where you could go out to Lorne Avenue, if you wanted to go north from the new buildings, but if you wanted to go south onto Queens Place, it would just be one-way; wondering if that is the idea.); Ms. M. Knieriem, Planner II, responding that this is something that they are looking at, either two-way and then one way for the existing Queens Place or making the whole thing one-way; seeing what will result in the least traffic for the existing Queens Place.*
- *(Mayor M. Brown, as a follow-up to the previous question, what sort of community consultation would that process involve; stating that the only concern that he has heard about this entire file is the impact that this might have on the existing residents on that small street.); Mr. M. Elmadhoon, Traffic Planning Engineer, responding that they normally do the details through the site plan process where they can evaluate the impact and if there is a Transportation Impact Assessment Study needed, it will evaluate the impact and the mitigation measures accordingly; Mr. P. Yeoman, Director, Development Services, advising that this will be subject to a subdivision application which will involve a public process associated with that as well.*
- Gary Brown, 35A – 59 Ridout Street South – advising that he has spent a lot of time at this property; noting that it is where they used to meet every Sunday to begin their bike rides with their Sunday riding group; noting that he stood with these folks when they tried to stop the closing of their school; asking that we stop talking about cultural sensitivity, there was nothing that was more culturally useful to this neighbourhood than having a neighbourhood school; advising that this Council stood up and said that as well so that ship has sailed at this point; indicating that there is one thing that he does not hear mentioned which is concerning and concerning about every site plan he ever hears, where is the concern about the safety for the kids in this park; if we are building this road down the back, what are we going to do to look after pedestrians, it should be explicitly said; expressing sorrow, but bicycle and cyclists and kids playing in the park should come before cars every single time and, once again, we are making accommodation for cars; expressing shock, stunned; advising that he was at the design contest for this, some of the Fanshawe College students had a design contest for this and Mr. J.M. Fleming, Managing Director, Planning and City Planner, was there and he spoke very well and the designs were fantastic, the concepts were fantastic; noting that that was not a surprise; stating that one of the concepts even had an artificial wetland park for this area; indicating that this looks sterile; knowing it is not at the site plan process but what consideration are we giving to kids playing in this park and now we are going to put a road and if he heard Councillor J. Helmer correctly, maybe even a two-way road in front of these houses; stating that there are going to be kids playing in this park, this is a place where kids play and it has been even when there was a school there; wondering why pedestrian safety cannot be thought about first and foremost because those will be our kids playing there; advising that this is something that he wants to throw into the Committee's heads because we tend to bypass this a lot.
- Jen Pastorius, 837 Elias Street – expressing support for the proposal for residential and parkland; thanking City staff for all of their work and this Council and the previous Council for taking ownership over allowing Old East Village to decide its own outcome with this site; noting that it really is lemonade out of lemons; sharing her support that housing is important for a number of reasons, she thinks that first of all, the eyes on the park is really important and the

connectivity between the existing residential areas, as well, she owns a one hundred year old home and she knows that a lot of folks do not necessarily want to take on that baggage; noting that she certainly loves it but not everyone does so the opportunity to have new builds in the neighbourhood offers a whole new realm of folks to be able to live in the Old East Village; expressing appreciation to see the engineering questions around flooding as that is something that is really important to the community and she thinks that it is important that that be addressed through this process and perhaps traffic calming measures being put in to place earlier on would probably be great as well.