

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

### 3.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – Demolition Request for Heritage Listed Properties at 74 Wellington Road and 78 Wellington Road

- Councillor Cassidy: Thank you Mr. Gonyou. Are there any members of the public who are here for this item?
- Jerri Bunn, Committee Clerk: I have a member in Committee Room 1 and 2.
- Councillor Cassidy: Thank you Ms. Bunn. If you would like to come to the microphone and state your name and you have five minutes to address the Committee.
- Arlene Jones, 88 Wellington Road: Good afternoon. I am here with Andy Jones. The one house that is beside the two houses that are proposed to be demolished. We are the third house from Watson Street. Demolishing these two houses would make us exposed completely, where at Wellington Road and Watson Road, we would be completely exposed. We already regular and frequent visits from people in the neighbourhood in our property, in our backyard. We've been broken into last June which almost completely destroyed us mentally. That Watson Street goes into the park and there's a lot of people and, unsavory types, and I am not talking about homeless people but I am talking about people that are doing break and enters. Since this pandemic we have seen a lot on Wellington Road. It would also expose the people, the older couple that are on Watson Street so they wouldn't have a side fence anymore as well as us not having a side fence. We've been watching the property closely, we have been in contact with Garda who has been hired by the City of London to protect those two properties and we have asked the City to put motion lights and we had an agreement with the, I think that he is the City Manager of Owned Properties. He had the lights up for a short period of time and, without notice, he came and undid the hydro and took out the meters exposing it now to Wellington Road as vacant. We are constantly having to ask for the lawn to be cut but we are on it. I am here to represent ourselves and the older people on Watson Street that would not have, these fences would be gone and we would be wide open for anybody coming down Watson or Wellington Road which they do at 2:00, 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning in our backyards. We're really concerned about it and somebody had just mentioned something about a meeting at March 11. We were to attend a meeting, I believe, on March 11 that was cancelled so I do not know about another meeting that went on, we were told that it was cancelled due to Covid so I'm a little concerned about that, too, because we planned on being at that last meeting that was cancelled. Anyways, we are very concerned. We know that the rapid transit is coming down Wellington. I have a friend who is an Engineer and she's pretty much explaining to me that the City wants the property so that the Contractor can place their heavy equipment there. The project isn't supposed to start for two to three years leaving us completely vulnerable for the next two to three years for no good reason so thank you.
- Councillor Cassidy: Thank you ma'am and we will have staff address some of your questions and concerns at the end. Are there any technical questions from the Committee? Seeing none. Are there any other members of the public? Just making sure there's nobody else that would like to speak to this before I close the public participation meeting. I'm not seeing anybody jump up so I will look for a motion to close the public participation meeting.