



North Talbot Neighbourhood Assoc.

Re: Zoning By-law Amendment – 100 Fullerton Street File # Z-9250

Dear Members of the Planning and Environment Committee

When Londoners were asked to participate in the forming of the City's new Official Plan - named the London Plan - Londoners spoke loudly that heritage was an important attribute worth preserving and celebrating. It went straight to the heart of what kind of city Londoners wanted - a culturally diverse city which included its past history. Their voices were heard and it was adopted as city wide policy that heritage buildings were not be to demolished but preserved and re-purposed in new development.

Developers continue to ask for demolition permits for heritage buildings because Council has yet to fully grasp the sentiment of Londoners who believed that adopting a heritage preservation policy in the Official Plan would bring an end to these site by site battles to preserve our heritage. Yet developers continue to test the resolve of Council and Londoners must continue to mobilize to defend their historical buildings which are testimonials to their heritage.

Please respect what Londoners are telling you. Heritage preservation and re-purposing should enhance architectural design not hinder it.

Demolition of 93-95 Dufferin Avenue

The public notice for the rezoning amendment to demolish 93-95 Dufferin did not include a rationale for the request nor is it available electronically for public review. Therefore, the public can only respond by either supporting or opposing the demolition request for 93-95 Dufferin. We reject this zoning amendment and the demolition of 93-95 Dufferin.

Any statements made by Old Oak Properties regarding structural issues must be independently reviewed as this is the common rationale brought forward by all developers to justify demolition. Attached is an email string retrieved through the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act regarding an independent report assessing the structural condition of the Kent Brewery – one of the oldest buildings and perhaps the oldest remaining building in London. All buildings from the 19<sup>th</sup> century will have some deterioration given their age but they are also repairable. **Old Oak Properties cannot state that restoring a heritage building is too expensive and cry poverty when they can spend hundreds of millions of dollars on new builds across the city.**

Placement of the Camden Terrace façade.

The demolition of Camden Terrace did not have public support. It had only political support because at the time, Mayor Matt Brown was excited that this development would be the

tallest in southwestern Ontario - a detail the public viewed as inconsequential. In their decision to move forward with demolition, Council preserved 93-85 Dufferin so not to completely erase the heritage of the Downtown Talbot Block. And the frontage of Camden Terrace was to be rebuilt using original brick - unique to 19th century architecture in the London area - along Talbot Street to maintain its historical character. It was compensation to the community.

We do not support demolition in exchange for a Disney-like caricature reproduction of a façade going forward but since Camden Terrace has been demolished, we would appreciate if you can please uphold this decision by the previous Council and ensure that the original bricks are used in the Camden Terrace façade rebuild as promised to the community.

Sincerely,

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