

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING COMMENTS

3.2 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING – 193 Queens Avenue (Z-9327)

- Councillor Squire: Staff? Is there a staff presentation?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Ms. Debbert, are you presenting on this item?
- Barb Debbert, Senior Planner: Yes, I had planned to.
- Councillor Squire: Alright, go ahead whenever you are ready.
- Barb Debbert, Senior Planner: Thank you Mr. Chair. I may have had a glitch here. I couldn't.
- Councillor Squire: Don't worry about it, we've had a lot of glitches over the term of Covid so you go ahead. Thank you. Is the applicant here?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Yes Mr. Chair. Mr. Allen is here.
- Councillor Squire: Thank you. Mr. Allen?
- Scott Allen, MHBC: Good afternoon Mr. Chair, again and Members of the Committee, again, Scott Allen from MHBC Planning. We're acting on behalf of the applicant. With me today representing the applicant is Muky Pundaky and he is available to respond to questions. At this time, we'd like to express our support for the Development Services report presented by Ms. Debbert. In particular we agree with the findings that a temporary commercial parking, that temporary commercial parking permissions at this location would help maintain convenient access to downtown offices, retailers, venues and residents in the near term. We also agree that this temporary permission would not undermine the long-term redevelopment potential of these lands or the broader planning objectives for London's downtown. These findings also reflect commentary presented in our planning report which was submitted in support of this application. Also, Mr. Chair, as noted in the City staff report, we'd like to advise the Committee that the applicant is currently exploring development plans for this area that would include this specific property. To conclude we would like to thank staff for their attention to this application and we're available to answer any questions any members may have. Thank you.
- Councillor Squire: Thank you. Technical questions only please from Committee at this time. Alright there aren't any so we'll move on to public participation. Is there anybody here to speak?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: Yes, Mr Chair. Ms. McKeating is here to speak.
- Councillor Squire: I'm sorry, Ms.?
- Catharine Saunders, City Clerk: McKeating.
- Councillor Squire: Ms. McKeating. Ms. McKeating are you present?
- Kelley McKeating: I am. Can everyone hear me?
- Councillor Squire: We can. Go ahead.
- Kelley McKeating: Okay.

- Councillor Squire: Whenever you're ready.
- Kelley McKeating: First of all, I can picture Mayor Holder's smile disappearing because, while he might love PPM's, he probably is tired of hearing from the ACO as may the rest of you be and I do apologize for that.
- Councillor Squire: No. Just to be clear, I, no that isn't, I know Mayor Holder.
- Kelley McKeating: I'm saying that jokingly.
- Councillor Squire: Oh, good. Okay.
- Kelley McKeating: I'm absolutely saying that jokingly.
- Councillor Squire: Okay. Perfect.
- Kelley McKeating: Don't, don't think that I, I'm doing anything other than teasing you.
- Councillor Squire: Not a problem. Okay.
- Kelley McKeating: I hope that's okay.
- Councillor Squire: That's okay.
- Kelley McKeating: I, we fully understand that City Council cannot tell property owners within limits what they can and cannot do with their property and that they can't tell developers what they can and cannot do and where they should build but City Council can in their decisions send a message about what they want to have happen on certain blocks of land within the downtown core and the Farhi organization, they don't only own 193 Queens Avenue but they also own 199 Queens Avenue where a heritage building was demolished ten or so years ago after Mr. Farhi, with an architect and a really, really lovely rendering of a high rise building to be developed there convinced Council of the day to allow that demolition because development was imminent and now we're hearing that development is once more imminent and I guess that what we would suggest to the PEC and to Council is that if you really want development to be imminent here denying yet another renewal of a temporary parking permit zoning would perhaps incent the owner of the property to really get moving on what, at the end of the day, will probably be a very, very positive addition to downtown. That's all I have to say. Thanks.
- Councillor Squire: Thank you very much. Any further? No there's no further public participation so if I could just have a motion to close the public participation meeting?