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London
CANADA

September 20, 2021

Chair and Members
Planning & Environment Committee

Earlier this year we gave direction to our staff to work with the Thames Valley District School Board to assist them in the process to find a location for a new elementary school in the northwest. The Board has already secured the funding for the school but requires a viable location somewhere northwest of Wonderland Rd N and Fanshawe Park Rd W.

Since that time, I have kept in close contact with officials at the school board about the current situation and their progress in finding a viable location. The situation is now worse than previously communicated to PEC. As the letter from Mr. Pratt indicates, **Sir Arthur Currie Elementary School, a school built to accommodate 533 students, is now approaching nearly 1000 students and currently has 22 portables. They will have as many students outdoors as they have indoors.** This situation is not sustainable or desirable. I have spoken to hundreds of parents who are desperate for a solution as soon as possible. I believe this to be an extraordinary circumstance and we should do whatever we reasonably can to assist the TVDSB in getting a new school built as soon as possible.

Also attached is a letter on behalf of Auburn Developments which outlines a clear alternative that has been discussed between them and the Board. This alternative has the potential to **build a school years sooner** as a location within the Kent subdivision would have immediate access to services and would only require an additional zone on the land.

As the letter indicates, "The opportunity and option to locate the proposed school south of Sunningdale Road within the Foxhollow North Kent Developments Inc. ("Kent") subdivision would provide immediate access to services and could expedite the construction and delivery of the school by years. The corresponding advancement and approval of the Official Plan Amendment for the Mount Pleasant lands, located on the North side of Sunningdale Road, will satisfy the elimination of housing stock and also provide housing in the future. The Official Plan Amendment approval would enable staff to coordinate the servicing requirements and consider the forthcoming applications to accommodate the housing needs and without the pressure or urgency the school site requires."

I therefore respectfully ask you to consider the following motion:

That the following updated instructions be given to Civic Administration:

- a) That staff work with the Applicant to facilitate the necessary zoning by-law amendment(s) within the Kent Subdivision to allow for a new elementary school.
- b) That, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Director, Development Services, with respect to the application of Auburn Developments Inc. relating to the property located at 2631 Hyde Park Road and 1521 Sunningdale Road West, staff BE DIRECTED to bring back a proposed by-law to amend the Official Plan to change the designation of the subject lands FROM an Open Space designation TO a Low Density Residential and Environmental Review designation and to amend The London Plan to change the Place Type of the subject lands FROM a Green Space place type TO a Neighbourhoods place type and Environmental Review place type to be considered at a future public participation meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee,

IT BEING NOTED THAT the future development of the lands shall fully comply with the policies of the Neighbourhoods Place Type of The London Plan, and IT BEING FURTHER NOTED THAT the costs of any temporary servicing required for these lands shall be at the full cost of the property owner.

Respectfully,

Josh Morgan
Deputy Mayor
Councillor, Ward 7

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