

From: marlyn loft

Sent: Monday, July 22, 2013 9:52 AM

To: Polhill, Bud; Hubert, Paul; Branscombe, Nancy; Henderson, Dale; White, Sandy;

Cc: Lysynski, Heather; nmusicco@london.ca

Subject: OZ-8121 Re-zoning

Dear Members of the Planning and Environment Committee,

I am writing regarding the re-zoning application for the properties at 754/764 Waterloo St. and 354 Oxford St. E. The application will be considered at a public meeting to-morrow, July 23.

As you know the properties are part of Bishop Hellmuth Heritage Conservation District. The district plan sets out guidelines for new building and states " **an important principle is to ensure that contemporary architecture blends in and complements the historic context**". (4.5 page 16)

Although some changes have been made to the plans that were originally submitted, the proposed building does not appear to have features that complement or harmonize with the architecture of the neighbourhood. Please note that the Shell station across the street has set an acceptable precedent for suitable business development in the Bishop Hellmuth HCD. That building design includes some heritage features and there is attractive landscaping.

Four years of hard work by the neighbourhood and city staff were dedicated to the process of designating the Bishop Hellmuth area an HCD. The guidelines are in place to ensure that any development enhances rather than erodes the unique architectural integrity and natural beauty of our neighbourhood. Please **require** the property owner to submit a suitable design **before** you approve the re-zoning application.

Thank you for your work on this important committee. Your decision on this issue will be far-reaching for our neighbourhood and for other Heritage Conservation Districts in London.

Sincerely,

Marlyn Loft
784 Wellington St.