

April 2, 2001

TO: Councillor Joanne Flint  
Councillor Jane Pitfield  
Councillor Joe Mihevic  
Councillor Anne Johnston  
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong

FROM: Councillor Michael Walker

RE: 2195 Yonge Street

I am writing to voice my outrage at the lack of “due process” regarding this application. This preliminary report was submitted to the clerk after the deadline for submission to this Midtown Community Council and should not, and I repeat, should NOT be introduced at this meeting. Residents have not been notified of this reports’ introduction today and thus are not prepared nor are they here today to give you their views.

That such an outrageous proposal is even being considered by the city’s Planning Department, is appalling. The introduction of this item today sends a message that local democracy no longer exists at City Hall. How can members of the public be involved, with in effect no notice from the City?

This report’s contents will serve to create a program of negotiation where residents will be co-opted to bargain for ‘benefits’ from such a proposed development and will ultimately serve to hurt them at the Ontario Municipal Board. The application sets a dangerous precedent and signals that the new Official Plan may as well be named “Toronto at the Crossroads: Speculating on Our Future.”

A copy of this preliminary report has been circulated to the community. I plan to hold a public meeting on May 1, 2001 prior to the Midtown Community Council on May 15, 2001 to receive their comments and guidance as to how to proceed from, i.e. whether there is merit to support going forward.

The only rights of due process that will be violated by the introduction and debate of this report today are those of the citizens of this community. Mr. Diamond still has not had the courtesy to send me a copy of his letter requesting that this item be added today. This is not justice!

Yours sincerely,

Michael Walker  
Councillor - St. Paul's  
Chair – Midtown Community Council