



October 26, 2021

To: City of Toronto Executive Committee

Re: Agenda Item 27.8, First Parliament Site

Dear Committee Members:

Spire Condominium (TSCC-1864), located at 33 Lombard Street, is a member of the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association. On behalf of Spire's Board, I am pleased to endorse the Association's recommendations posted on your supplementary agenda.

Also, on behalf of our Board, I have an additional recommendation for your consideration:

As negotiations between the City and Province proceed, the City should urge the Province to retain a portion of the First Parliament site in public ownership. That portion comprises the lands on which the Parliament buildings were actually located.

Our preference is that this objective be secured by returning the subject lands to the City. Failing that, they should be retained by the Province, and not transferred into private hands.

Archeological exploration in the year 2000 demonstrates that the Parliament buildings were (likely) on land reserved as open space in the plan envisaged by Infrastructure Ontario. Extending southward from Front Street in the plan, this open space is flanked by a commercial development site to the west and a residential development site to the east. Archeological exploration in progress will confirm the Parliament buildings' exact location, thereby enabling configuration of the open space to be finalized.

Given the recommendation above, the open space extending southward from Front Street would be excluded from sale to developers. It should remain in public ownership akin to the proposed parkland farther south – potentially as an extension of that parkland.

While easements can be registered on private property, enforcement of easements can be problematic. Archeological remains of the Parliament buildings should be effectively protected ensuring this outcome.

Yours sincerely,



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