

By email to: exc@toronto.ca

October 26th, 2021

City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

EX:27.8 The First Parliament Site and Expropriation of City-Owned Lands by Metrolinx for Transit Purposes.

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

The East Waterfront Community Association (EWCA) is a member of the First Parliament Working Group, the stakeholder process created under EX23.3 (¶17) and referenced on page 4 (¶13) of the Staff Report and has been involved in the ongoing discussions of matters relating to the Corktown Station of the Ontario Line, the proposed TOCs and the First Parliament Site.

We urge the City to commit that, the overall redevelopment proposal for this site includes the vision resulting from the last two decades of previous input of the community-driven process, namely; the public provision for a heritage and commemorative Indigenous interpretation, a 30,000 square-foot regional library, 3,400 square feet of parkland and an affordable housing allocation in accordance with City's current policy. All these are so critical for families including the EWCA community that will be close to and accessing the Corktown station transit-hub.

EWCA includes the East Bayfront, with our area of coverage starting from East of Yonge Street to Cherry Street and from Lake Shore Boulevard East down to the Waterfront. Our community area is currently undergoing massive revitalization and redevelopment. St Lawrence neighbourhood, the West Don Lands and Port Lands are all adjacent to us and the proposed Corktown station of the Ontario Line will be an important transit hub for our community, to link to the East LRT extension at Parliament Street.

As a member of the First Parliament Working Group, we are very supportive of the recommendations of key local stakeholders such as the SLNA, GWNA and WDLC, that the proceeds from the sale of the First Parliament Properties are not directed as is usual practice to the Land Acquisition Reserve Fund. As this is a unique site, a substantial portion of the funds must be specifically earmarked for and be used to obtain, on a first priority basis, the maximum above public provisions for the First Parliament site in order to fully respect the spirit of the Master Plan, the original objectives of the City for this site, and the urgent needs of the community.

EWCA appreciates your consideration of its input on this agenda item and hopes it will be favourably received.

Yours sincerely,



David Chan
President
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