MOTION
ETOBICOKE YORK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Revitalization of Weston Road in Mount Dennis

Moved By: Councillor Nunziata

SUMMARY:

In 2007, I created the Weston-Mount Dennis Employment Growth Task Force, made up of both community stakeholders and staff from City Planning and Economic Development, Culture & Tourism, to investigate ways of improving employment and economic growth in Weston-Mount Dennis. The Task Force has met consistently since its conception, and has repeatedly identified the current state of Weston Road in Mount Dennis as cause for concern.

The section of Weston Road in Mount Dennis is plagued by a high number of vacant storefronts, many of which have been vacant for years. While there have been some recent improvements, for example the Learning Enrichment Foundation opening a storefront satellite location at Weston Rd./Ray Ave. and Caplan’s opening their Weston Road Miele Gallery north of Eglinton Avenue West, revitalization of Weston Road in Mount Dennis has been moving at a snail-like pace. With the upcoming transit improvements slated to run through Mount Dennis, the Eglinton LRT in particular, there is an opportunity to return this section of Weston Road to the vibrant street it once was; however, in order to take advantage of this opportunity, we must act now.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That Etobicoke-York Community Council direct the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning, in consultation with the General Manager of Economic Development, Culture & Tourism, to report back on the feasibility of establishing a Community Improvement Plan for Weston Road in Mount Dennis.

2. That Etobicoke-York Community Council request that the Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning ensure that the Avenue Study planned for Weston Road between Ray Avenue and Humber Boulevard (and including Eglinton Avenue to Black Creek Drive and Black Creek Drive from Eglinton Avenue to Trethewey Drive), is scheduled for study in 2010.

January 12, 2010