

Councillor - Ward 33
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August 30, 2011

Scarborough Community Council
c/o Yvonne Davies
Scarborough Civic Centre
3rd floor, 150 Borough Dr.
Toronto, ON M1P 4N7

Dear Scarborough Community Council,

Re: SC9.32 3551 Victoria Park Avenue – Rezoning and Site Plan Applications – Refusal Report

I am aware that on September 12, 2011, you will be dealing with item SC9.32 3551 Victoria Park Avenue – Rezoning and Site Plan Applications – Refusal Report. I am writing to make explicit my support for the recommendations made by staff in this report.

While 3551 Victoria Park Avenue is located within the boundary of Ward 39, the place of worship that is being operated by The Islamic Society of Willowdale at this location has also had an impact on many residents living just west of Victoria Park Avenue in Ward 33.

On multiple occasions I have spoken with residents in my ward that have expressed concerns with regard to cars parking on local residential streets such as Pawnee Avenue, Navaho Drive and Apache Trail by people coming to attend services at this place of worship. For those of you unfamiliar with this area, it is a densely populated sub-division in which a large number of homes have legal second suites.

Residents have noted that high numbers of cars use these streets in lieu of an adequate parking lot at 3551 Victoria Park Avenue. They are concerned that the parked cars narrow their streets making them difficult to maneuver (especially in the winter months when snow is also a factor). They also make it very difficult for people visiting residents on these streets to find parking. Each time I am in this part of my ward, this is one of the prominent issues that residents raise.

I have reviewed the staff report and the recommendations therein and agree with staff's refusal of the rezoning and site plan applications. The reasons noted by planning staff for the refusal directly reflect the issues that my residents have spoken out about. I have consulted with the local Councillor, Councillor Del Grande, and know that he too is in full support of the staff recommendations.

Sincerely,

Councillor Shelley Carroll