December 13, 2013.

By E-Mail
clerk@toronto.ca

Mayor and Members of Council,
City of Toronto Clerk’s Office,
Toronto City Hall,
100 Queen Street West,
10th Floor, West Tower,
Toronto, ON, M5H 2N2

Attention: Ulli S. Watkiss, City of Toronto Clerk

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:


Wing’s Food Products owns manufacturing facilities in several Toronto locations including: 550 Kipling Avenue; 50 Torlake Crescent; and 275 Albany and 56 Torlake Crescent, and has been a significant manufacturer in this City since 1953. In total we have over 300 employees some operating in 3 shifts, 6 days a week.

A Canadian Family owned Toronto based business, producing a wide variety of sauces, condiments, syrups, pastas, noodles and baked products distributed across Canada, for both domestic and export markets. With two modern food processing plants in south Etobicoke, our Torlake plant has been in operation since 1998 and our Kipling Ave plant has been in operation since 2011 both with substantial capital investment in this west Toronto community.

The purpose of this letter is to document our significant concerns about the request to convert employment lands at 302 and 320-324 Horner Avenue to residential use in whole or in part. The request was submitted on September 4th after the cut off date of May 31, 2013 for staff evaluation and recommendation to Planning and Growth Management Committee at its Public Meeting on November 21, 2013.

This proposal that would introduce new sensitive uses (residential) within close proximity of our Torlake crescent plant could affect our current and future industrial operations as well as potential expansions and ongoing investment in our business. We oppose the introduction of any new sensitive uses on this site.
We believe Council should await staff's recommendations and analysis on every conversion request prior to any approval so that a proper evaluation can be made in the context of the existing public policy context, including the Provincial policies and plans. Council's support of ad hoc conversions contrary to staff's professional planning opinion puts the strong employment policies of the Official Plan in jeopardy and makes it very difficult to defend at the Ontario Municipal Board.

We reserve the right to raise additional concerns with the Proposed Official Plan Amendment as staff is reporting directly to Council on additional matters without the opportunity for further public consultation. We also ask to be provided with notice of all upcoming meetings of Council and Committees of Council at which the Proposed Official Plan Amendment will be considered and that we be provided with notice of Council's decision with respect to the Proposed Official Plan Amendment.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the undersigned. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours very truly,

Doug Alexander
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