

Kelly McCarthy  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
By email

December 5, 2013

RE: EX36.11  
Update on School Board Properties and the School Lands Acquisition Framework

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

I want to put forward my strong support for this Recommendation. Throughout the City, we have seen the disposal and purchase of many TDSB properties. Where the City has not been able to secure these properties, gaps have been left in the community. These gaps include the fulfillment of much needed community space, opportunity to provide child care programs, retention of green space and more.

The retention of the remaining LARF (Land Acquisition Reserve Fund) will enable the City to retain these lands and the multifaceted value they add to the community, versus, watching them convert to residential purposes.

An example of this city wide issue can be seen in the Vincent Massey site, 68 Daisy Avenue that includes a child care centre – one of the seven school sites being sold. Not only are we at risk of losing much needed community and green space, the sale of this site has placed unwanted stress on the families of 180 children. I have been working with the day care, local parents and MPP Doug Holyday in trying to retain this site by the City or appropriate community group. Most recently, I have asked the City to assist in creating a business case to purchase this site.

I urge the Executive Committee to support this Recommendation in order to retain the opportunity to continue much needed day care and other uses of school lands. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Grimes



**T: 416.397.9273**  
**F: 416.397.9279**  
**E: [councillor\\_grimes@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_grimes@toronto.ca)**  
**[www.markgrimes.ca](http://www.markgrimes.ca)**