



November 20, 2013

RE: PG 28.2 MCR recommendation concerning 28 Bathurst Street

Dear Chair and Planning and Growth Committee members,

I am writing to express my support for the recommendations as outlined in the staff report PG 28.2 as they pertain to 28 Bathurst Street (page 9, attachment #2). I urge the committee: do not amend the staff recommendation. The staff recommendations follow many meetings and much consideration of the local community and stakeholders.

The lands at 28 Bathurst, and adjacent lands subject to similar recommendations in the MCR (2 Tecumseth Street on page 421 in attachment #2), are critically sensitive to each other and neighbouring land uses. The lands at 28 Bathurst are surrounded by a low density stable neighbourhood, an active public works yard, a city owned abandoned incinerator, two shelters, a childcare facility, and a functioning abattoir.

For these reasons, staff have recommended approval of the conversion from employment lands to a Regeneration Area and to amend the Garrison North Secondary Plan following the completion of the Bathurst, Tecumseth, Wellington, Strachan Area Planning Study currently underway so that the various sites can be planned together.

The site at 28 Bathurst currently functions as the sole employee parking lot for the Quality Meats abattoir that employs over 650 people. Removal of the only employee parking lot would have devastating impacts on the operations of the largest employer in the area and likely force closure of this successful business.

The Quality Meats abattoir at 2 Tecumseth Street is also exploring their future options and subject to a similar MCR recommendations so that both sites, along with two other city owned sites, be discussions in accordance with one another. Such a planning review will allow the community, planners, the city and private landowners to coordinate their plans and develop a master plan for the area so that we get the best possible outcome.

We must complete the planning study and consider 28 Bathurst in the context of all of the adjacent properties experiencing development pressure so that we build a neighbourhood. I respectfully request that the committee pass the staff recommendations unamended.

Sincerely,

Mike Layton
City Councillor
Ward 19, Trinity-Spadina