

# ossington community association

working for the ossington strip–dundas bend neighbourhood and business districts

ossingtoncommunity.ca

December 9, 2014

CC2.4.1

Dear Member of City Council:

This letter is in reference to item CC2.4, concerning a call for direction in re a site-specific appeal of the Ossington Official Plan Amendment (OPA) for the property located at 9 Ossington.

The Ossington Official Plan Amendment is the **first** low-scale Official Plan Amendment in Toronto's West End. **It deserves to remain intact.** As City Planner Tom Rees, who led the Ossington Area Study, testified, **even a single 6-storey building would hurt the character of Ossington;** he confirmed in a signed affidavit that this was his expert opinion. To move forward with any settlement would thus injure Ossington Avenue, one of the most characterful and historically interesting streets in Toronto.

The owner of 9 Ossington has appealed to the OMB to exempt his building from the 4-storey height restrictions of the Ossington OPA, so that he can build a midrise, perhaps even exceeding 6 storeys, in that location. The owner has been in "negotiations" with City Solicitor Amanda Hill, and though the contents of the request for direction are confidential, it's not hard to guess that her recommendation will be, as per usual City Legal practice, to settle with the appellant, against the will of City Planning, the local Councillor, and the local community.

If this is in fact the content of the request for direction, then on behalf of the members of the Ossington Community Association, I strongly encourage you, as a member of City Council to support Councillor Layton in rejecting any such settlement (as per his previously expressed opinion).

Please support Ossington's Official Plan Amendment. Please support City Planning, Councillor Layton, and the local community in rejecting any settlement that would undermine the carefully planned fabric of our unique street.

Sincerely yours,



Jessica Wilson

President, Ossington Community Association

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