



Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Etobicoke York Community Council  
Etobicoke Civic Centre  
Main Floor, 399 The West Mall  
Toronto, ON M9C 2Y2

**Re: 22 John Street, 33 King Street and Elsmere Avenue Re-zoning Application**

To Whom It May Concern;

The Executive of the Weston Village Residents' Association (WVRA) has attended every meeting regarding this development proposal from its inception. After having weighed the pros and cons of this proposal, as well as other potential scenarios for the development of this surplus TPA lot, the Executive of the WVRA wishes to express their unanimous support for this application.

As major transit infrastructure projects ought to, the new Union Pearson Express has brought new and long overdue opportunities to the inner suburb of Weston, one of 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas as designated by the City. The community fought long and hard for a stop in Weston because we believed that it would be a catalyst for revitalization. For one, the redevelopment of a TPA parking lot at 22 John Street made surplus by the move of the GO/UP Express station to the south side of Lawrence Avenue has been made possible as a result. As laid out in the staff recommendations before you, it will incorporate the podium of an underutilized 31-storey property adjacent to the site at 33 King

Street with a cultural hub managed by Artscape that includes 26 affordable live/work space for artists and their families – this particular piece is key to the proposal. It will also include some 370 at-market rental units built by the Rockport Group, as well as a market square that will become the “heart” of Weston, and will house the 30 year old Weston Farmers’ Market. However, it is Rockport’s partnering with Artscape that makes the proposal unique and has attracted the interest of the community. With the efforts of Sean Gadon from the Affordable Housing Office, Tim Jones from Artscape and our local Councillor, Councillor Nunziata, for the first time in a generation, we can see positive change on the horizon!

The Weston Village Residents’ Association’s Executive Committee unanimously supports the revitalization efforts that are being planned at 22 John Street, 33 King and Elsmere Avenue and asks that Council approve the Official Plan Amendment and re-zoning application so that this long overdue and much needed project may proceed.

Yours truly,

David McBride  
Chair  
Weston Village Residents’ Association