25 April 2016

Sent via Email to: Rosemary MacKenzie

Councillor Mark Grimes
Chair
Etobicoke York Community Council
Etobicoke Civic Centre
399 The East Mall
Toronto, ON  M9C 2Y2

Re: Agenda item PB 14.6 – Intent to Designate 260 High Park Avenue under Part IV of the Ontario Preservation Act

Dear Etobicoke York Community Council members,

It is my pleasure to write on behalf of the Junction Heritage Conservation District (HCD) Committee regarding the intent to designate 260 High Park Avenue.

As you may know, the Junction HCD Committee was established in 2011 to prepare the comprehensive heritage nomination application, and our team aspires to achieve and uphold the ideals of a heritage district in our designated Character Area while waiting for our Study phase to be initiated by Heritage Preservation Services (HPS).

The future HCD will be a microcosm of the former city of West Toronto Junction that amalgamated with the city of Toronto in 1909. It will include public buildings, main street commercial properties, and residential properties of both the gentry class with their mansion houses on High Park Avenue and the ordinary homes of the working class people on surrounding streets.

We represent property owners on both sides of Keele Street (wards 13 & 14), and the many non-Junction residents who visit to enjoy the social and cultural milieu and appreciate the distinctive neighbourhood architecture, history and character that many find appealing.

The former United Church is prominently situated at the corner of High Park Avenue and Annette Street. It is an integral component of the Junction HCD and contributes to a collection of public buildings along Annette Street. It is an essential piece of the built form fabric. The church and attached school building are part of a chorus of churches (also designated) that shaped the social life and religious education of Junction citizens.

HPS has provided an excellent evaluation report that outlines many other attributes to support the Designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as recommended by the Toronto Preservation Board.
Please accept this letter as an enthusiastic endorsement for the intent to designate. It is imperative that Junction history, culture, and built form fabric continues to be conserved for future generations.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at junctionhcd@bell.net.

Thank you in advance for all your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Leslie
Chair, Junction HCD Committee

cc Councillor Sarah Doucette
    Councillor Gord Perks
    Mary MacDonald, senior manager of heritage preservation services
    Harold Madi, director of urban design
    Jennifer Rieger, chair, Toronto Preservation Board
    Brian Mooney, chair, Etobicoke York Community Preservation Panel
    Paul Farrelly, chair, Toronto & East York Community Preservation Panel
    Councillor Mike Layton, chair, Toronto & East York Community Council
    Michael Vidoni, heritage planner
    Anthony Hommik, community planner
    Sarah Henstock, manager of community planning, Etobicoke York District
    Neil Cresswell, director of community planning, Etobicoke York District
    Lynda Macdonald, manager of community planning, Toronto & East York District
    Gregg Lintern, director of community planning, Toronto & East York District