To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the June 14, 2016 Etobicoke York Community Council meeting on item 2016.EY15.5, Final Report - 2445 Lake Shore Boulevard West - Official Plan Amendment

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

To Etobicoke/York Community Council Members

RE: Agenda Item EY15.5

I am writing this to you as Chair of the Mimico-by-the-Lake BIA.

Following the completion of the Mimico 20/20 Secondary plan, we have repeatedly requested that the City engage in a public process to determine the highest possible use for the publicly owned and and buildings in and around Amos Waites Park - the area that was designated to be the Cultural and Recreational centre of Mimico in the secondary plan.

To date, all of our requests have been either rejected or ignored.

Most recently, we were joined by the Mimico Residents Association, the Humber Bay Condo Association, and others in making the same request.

If you approve the EY15.5 item without also requiring that the area undergo a proper, open and transparent community consultation to determine how best to use our waterfront assets for all community members, you will be perpetuating, entrenching and condoning the institutional deafness we have been experiencing on this issue. And if you do, then in 10 or 15 years, when we all wonder why the area has not lived up to its potential, we will look back at this vote to see the opportunity that you missed.

This is why we are asking you to defer this decision and if you can’t do that to require that a proper public process be undertaken in the next two years to determine how best to use this waterfront property. This will give Staff and Council time to plan for the next phase of the development of the
park that is consistent with the Secondary plan that was adopted by Council. There are many creative possibilities that can include the programs and services that are being provided by the current BMR tenant but we can also do much much more. All we need is your vision and resolve to make this happen.

It is not often that you have an opportunity to have an impact on the future of our Waterfront so we thank you for your careful consideration in this matter.

Yours truly,

David Pritchard
Chair, Mimico-by-the-Lake BIA

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