

From: [Michael Landry](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: My comments for 2017.PG23.7 on November 7, 2017 City Council
Date: Monday, November 6, 2017 4:57:32 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the November 7, 2017 City Council meeting on item 2017.PG23.7, Bill 139 - Proposed Amendments to the Planning Act and Province's Land Use Planning Appeal System

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:

RE: Bill 139, Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017

Dear Council Members,

The Downtown Toronto Residents Associations' Alliance wishes to express our support for the recommendations of the Planning and Growth Management Committee that align with ours in key areas relating to the reform of the Ontario Municipal Board.

We also wish to highlight the critical need of ensuring that our six residents' associations, representing over 100,000 residents in downtown Toronto, are given the ability to advocate effectively for our interests before the Ontario Municipal Board's successor, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal.

We are pleased to see many positive Planning Committee recommendations that, if implemented, should lead to the healthy growth of our province, our towns and cities, our neighbourhoods and communities.

We acknowledge that Bill 139 will undergo change as a result of recommendations of many stakeholders across the province and that

supporting regulations will be critical to the legislation meeting the provincial government's intention for reforming the OMB.

Given our collective extensive experience with existing OMB and City Planning processes in the Downtown Toronto core, we are and will continue to be active in the review process, including development of the Bill 139's regulations.

As such, we were disappointed that no residents associations were given the opportunity to appear before the Standing Committee on Social Affairs at the Queen's Park hearings, contrary to a fundamental underpinning of the review process to be inclusive of stakeholder groups, of which residents are certainly one.

Our goal is to assist in the creation of legislation that has seriously considered and incorporated the perspective of citizens, and that builds better communities.

Sincerely,

The Downtown Toronto Residents Associations' Alliance (DTRAA)

Marilyn Tait, President of the Bay Cloverhill Community Association

Linda Brett, President of the Bloor East Neighbourhood Association

Andrew Horberry, President of the Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Nelson Bettencourt, Board Member of the Garden District Residents' Association

Michael Landry, President of the Greater Yorkville Residents' Association

Margrit Eichler, Secretary of the McGill Granby Village Residents' Association