

4 December 2017

VIA EMAIL ONLY: clerk@toronto.ca

Honourable Mayor and Members of Council
City of Toronto
100 Queens Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Attention: Marilyn Toft
City Clerk

Dear Mayor and Members of Council

**Re: Port Lands Planning Initiatives – Final Report
PG24.06 – Ward 30
TDSB Request for Consideration and Amendments**

This correspondence is further to the letter from Toronto District School Board (TDSB) of November 15, 2017 to the Planning and Growth Management Committee of the City of Toronto Council. This letter provides further information and identifies specific recommendations.

The TDSB respectfully requests that the proposed Port Lands Planning Framework, the Villiers Island Precinct Plan and the Ports Lands Official Plan Amendments be modified to:

- i) reflect the size of the public TDSB elementary schools to be a minimum of 1.90 hectares, which is required to accommodate 500 elementary students and child care; and
- ii) include a requirement for a public (TDSB) secondary school in the Port Lands

The TDSB recognizes that the Port Lands Planning Initiative sets out the planning framework for the revitalization of one of the largest and most complex city-building projects in Toronto. The TDSB strongly supports the City of Toronto in recognizing that community infrastructure, including schools, is essential to building complete, successful and vibrant communities.

The TDSB also shares the vision of the Ontario Government that vibrant communities and a prosperous society are built on the foundation of a strong education system. Learning and easy-accessibility to educational programming and facilities is critical to support the achievement of complete communities. As part of providing appropriate and quality learning opportunities, it is critical that provisions are made to ensure that sufficient land and educational facilities are identified.

In their current form, language and policies of the proposed Port Lands Planning Framework, the Villiers Island Precinct Plan and Port Lands Official Plan Modification do not adequately protect the TDSB's ability to provide adequate student accommodation for the residential communities to be established on these lands. The TDSB wishes to ensure the location and size of future elementary school site(s) in the relevant planning documents are appropriate and sufficient to provide a full range of programming for students and families in these emerging communities.

The TDSB Elementary School Design Guideline 2016 states that an elementary school with an enrolment of 500 students and child care facility requires 2.39 hectares of land. This site size provides for all of the necessary components for an elementary school including the building footprint, associated services (receiving, garbage, and storage), hard surface play area (structured play), soft surface play area (soccer pitch, free play), space for future growth (portables and permanent expansion) as well as the dedicated and exclusive space allocated to the child care centre.

The TDSB has worked diligently to determine if a smaller footprint could be achieved in densely-populated urban areas, while still maintaining the integrity of the requirements of the TDSB and the City of Toronto's directive that TDSB be responsible for providing its own outdoor play space. The TDSB proposes that some compromise is possible, but the size of future elementary school sites in this area shall not be less than 1.90 hectares. To operate on a smaller site of 1.90 hectares, significant reductions would need to be made to both the hard and soft surface play areas, the portion of the site reserved for portables and permanent expansion, combined with smaller adjustments to other site components.

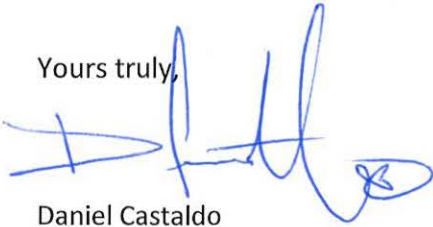
The TDSB therefore requests that the proposed Port Lands Planning Framework, the Villiers Island Precinct Plan and Port Lands Official Plan Modification be amended to identify that public elementary schools in the Port Lands be no less 1.9 hectares in size, which is sufficient to accommodate up to 500 students and child care centre.

Lastly, the need for a future secondary school was not included in the Port Lands planning framework based on preliminary comments provided by the TDSB at the time the plan was developed. Since then, further thought and consideration has been given to this matter, which was driven by recent changes to the way local secondary schools operate.

To this end, we are seeking an opportunity for a TDSB secondary school to be included within a future Port Lands planning district. As per the Port Lands Planning Framework, there had been support for a secondary school within the Port Lands and we would appreciate an opportunity to include a site within a future district to satisfy the original vision for the area.

Kind Regards,

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Castaldo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daniel Castaldo
Senior Manager, Planning

cc: Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, TDSB