PG24.10.11



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VIA EMAIL ONLY: pgmc@toronto.ca

Council Members of the Planning & Growth Management Committee City of Toronto 10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Attention: Nancy Martins Secretariat

Dear Members of the Planning & Growth Management Committee:

Re: Midtown in Focus: Proposals Report

PG24.10 - Wards 16, 22, 25, 26

TDSB Request for Continued Consultation

Staff at the TDSB have had an opportunity to review the proposed Yonge-Eglinton Secondary Plan Update and seek an opportunity to participate in meaningful consultation. Much like the City, the TDSB is concerned with our ability to accommodate and address the rapid growth and intensification of the Yonge-Eglinton community. As this community continues to grow and intensify, demands on local school infrastructure increase along with it.

The TDSB currently owns and operates ten school sites (2 secondary schools and 8 elementary schools) within the Yonge-Eglinton Secondary Plan area. As previously advised, these local schools are currently operating at or above their respective capacities. Even though the TDSB has engaged in multiple processes to balance enrolment, efficiently use existing space and to identify new capital projects to increase school capacity, including a new school on the Davisville Jr. PS site and a large expansion at Hodgson Sr. PS, it will be extremely challenging for the Board to accommodate future growth.

The TDSB has raised this challenge to the City previously and throughout the current consultation process; however the policies set out in the "Proposed Yonge-Eglington Secondary Plan" (PYESP) fail to address these issues. As well, the PYESP continues to reflect similar language and policies in the Official Plan Amendment 289 (OPA289) which adversely impact the TDSB's ability to meet this challenge. The TDSB is one of several appellants to the OPA289 current being considered at the Ontario Municipal Board.

In recognition of the need to secure additional school capacity in the Yonge-Eglinton Secondary Plan area, TDSB requests that the City consider placing policy options in the PYESP, such as placing a site reservation within a mixed-use development in the area or other alternatives which are identified through the consultation process.

In addition, the TDSB is concerned that certain policies in the PYESP pertaining to the proposed built form adjacent to our existing school sites, do not adequately address the potential adverse impacts of the developments and the construction phase of these projects. The TDSB seeks stronger policies that would better protect and possibly enhance the future usability and/or function of our existing sites, as well as permit and compliment possible expansion of additional school capacity.

The TDSB seeks to have the City recognize the challenges faced by the TDSB in this extremely challenging planning area and consider, through the consultation process to work collaboratively with the TDSB to amend the proposed policies to better assist TDSB to effectively protect, enhance and manage of our school sites to meet the current needs but also accommodate future growth.

The TDSB requests notice of the decision of the Planning and Growth Management Committee, as well as notice of further Public/Community Consultation Meetings, reports and consideration of this matter by the City Planning Division, Planning and Growth Management Committee, City Council and other Committees.

The TDSB looks forward to the opportunity for meaningful consultation with the City and working together toward our common vision of PYESP being a successful complete community in Toronto.

Yours truly,

Dawne Jubb

Cc:

Senior Legal Counsel

Municipal / Land Use Planning

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Andrew Gowdy, System Planning Officer, TDSB