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6 June 2018

VIA EMAIL ONLY: [pgmc@toronto.ca](mailto:pgmc@toronto.ca)

Attention: Nancy Martins

Chair and Members  
Planning and Growth Management Committee  
10th Floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Re: TDSB Request for Adoption of Additional Recommendation  
Don Mills Crossing Study – Proposals Report  
PGM Committee, Item PG30.6, Ward 26**

The Toronto District School Board (TDSB) met with City staff to discuss the Don Mills Crossing Study, and advise that the TDSB is facing accommodation challenges throughout the Study Area due to current enrolment pressures being experienced at schools and the projected enrollment from the rapid growth associated with future residential development projects. In particular, the TDSB has determined through its studies that accommodation pressures south of Eglinton Avenue, within the Don Mills Road and Eglinton Avenue East area, are some of the most challenging in the City as the TDSB does not have sufficient capacity or land to accommodate the number of students anticipated to be generated by future residential development. A new elementary school site is required south of Eglinton Avenue.

During these discussions, City staff advised the TDSB that an opportunity for a potential future elementary school exists on the west side of Don Mills Road, south of Eglinton Avenue on the City-owned lands of approximately 1.5 hectares in size, and that these lands represent the only opportunity for a new school site that exists within the proposed boundary of the Don Mills Crossing Secondary Plan. As such, staff proposed that these lands retain an 'Institutional' designation as part of the Land Use Plan for the Don Mills Crossing area.

The TDSB recently completed an accommodation study that examined opportunities to accommodate future students at existing schools north of Eglinton Avenue in the community of Don Mills. This study concluded that TDSB lands situated to the north are of a suitable size to accommodate future additions and/or replacement schools over the long-term. These sites, however, are not appropriately located to accommodate pressures that exist on the south side of Eglinton Avenue. These schools do not have sufficient capacity or land to accommodate the anticipated number of students to be generated by future residential development. At present, these schools are facing accommodation challenges given their large student populations, constrained school sites, undersized play areas and inadequate physical plants. This existing situation will be exacerbated as a result of proposed intensification south of Eglinton Avenue.

The TDSB notes that there is no mention in the Proposal Report, the draft recommendations or in the draft policies attached to the Report of a need for a new elementary school site south of Eglinton Avenue or the identification of a school site.

Further the TDSB notes that the Recommendations suggest that after stakeholder and public consultation, that staff prepare and submit the Final Report with a proposed Official Plan Amendment for the Don Mills Crossing Secondary Plan in the first quarter of 2019.

The TDSB is of the opinion that given the timeframe suggested to complete the consultation process, study and draft policies that it would be appropriate to immediately start the dialogue with the City and commence the necessary feasibility studies with the City and other impacted stakeholders to determine whether or a future elementary school can be accommodated on this block.

This feasibility study will inform the TDSB and the City as to the appropriateness of the site for a future elementary school, and provide additional information on any constraints or limitations that exist. Without this information the TDSB cannot be satisfied that the long-term accommodation needs of the area can be met.

**The TDSB therefore respectfully requests that the Planning and Growth Management Committee consider and adopt the following additional recommendation:**

- City Council direct the Chief Planner and the Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with other divisions, the TDSB and other stakeholders:
  - To undertake the necessary studies of the City owned lands on the west side of Don Mills Road, south of Eglinton Avenue of approximately 1.5 ha (identified by City staff) to determine the appropriateness of these lands for an elementary school; and
  - To include in the Don Mills Crossing Secondary Plan policies and potential sites for addressing student accommodation throughout the Study Area

It is the opinion of the TDSB that if the dialogue and studies are commenced in the near future, it may be possible to provide recommendations to the City and incorporate recommended language in the draft Official Plan policies for the first quarter of 2019.

We look forward to ongoing discussions with the City and other stakeholders to ensure that measures are taken to ensure that students residing in this community can be appropriately accommodated over the long-term.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Daniel Castaldo, Senior Manager, Planning, Strategy and planning at (416) 338-4471 or at [daniel.castaldo@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:daniel.castaldo@tdsb.on.ca).

Kind Regards,



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