

# SC7.2.5

June 25, 2019 – Scarborough Community Council re: Agincourt Mall – 3850 and 390 Sheppard Avenue East and 2350-2362 Kennedy Road  
Request to Amend the Official Plan No. 17 181232 ESC 40 OZ  
Submitted by Rhoda Potter, President, Agincourt Village Community Association

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of AVCA. I have been involved in all of the discussions regarding the Agincourt Mall Redevelopment from the beginning. Thank you – I see many of the community suggestions incorporated into this Review Report.

AVCA has a major concern...

Today I will speak of the present and future Traffic Gridlock at Kennedy Road/ 401/Sheppard Avenue and Impact of the lack of efficient public transportation and connectivity.

Today I will speak of disparity.

Scarborough is 1/3 of the land mass of Toronto

North York – 20 subway stops – 2 Metrolinx RER Corridors  
Scarborough – 3 subway stops – 1 Metrolinx RER Corridor

2016 Census

North York population – 655, 913  
Scarborough population – 632,098

The Traffic Studies completed for the Agincourt Mall Redevelopment by North American Development Group indicate 74% of traffic on Kennedy Road and 60% of traffic on Sheppard Avenue drives through this community. What is their destination? 401 highway, 905 area in the north and 905 area in the east. Our community is a drive-through!

Would improved public transportation eliminate some of this traffic?

According to 42 Police Division Kennedy Road/Sheppard Avenue is identified as one of three of the highest accident rate for vehicles and pedestrians every month in all of 42 Division.

What will happen when you add many more residents in the Agincourt Mall Development to the immediate area that already has traffic congestion, and lacks safe pedestrian pathways, cycle lanes and efficient public transportation connectivity?

What will happen when students who live in the Agincourt Mall condominiums need to cross by foot or by car Sheppard Avenue or Kennedy Road to attend a school? According to this Review there is no guarantee elementary students will attend Tam O'Shanter PS – a school that is presently overpopulated with nine portables.

As a retired elementary school principal, I shudder to envision these students attending Lyngate PS or Agincourt JPS or North Agincourt PS while crossing these major arterial roads. Please note these schools are also overpopulated with 3-5 portables presently.

Should parents decide to drive their children to school they will exacerbate the traffic gridlock. What will happen to the children?

AVCA agrees the redevelopment of Agincourt Mall needs to happen. However, we have our shovels ready to start digging – that is to dig our way out of our community because that will be the only way for us or the residents of the Agincourt Mall Redevelopment to gain access to school, work, food, play or social engagements.

AVCA implores you as City Councillors to together, help present day Scarborough residents as well as the future Scarborough residents in the Agincourt Mall Development and the 17 other planned mixed use developments just in Ward 22 to move around- let alone survive. We are being immobilized!

Where is the equality in transportation between Scarborough and North York? There is none – the above facts prove it. If developments such as Agincourt Mall Redevelopment move forward as we expect they will we as residents desperately need your help!

Attached is a letter addressed to Mayor Tory regarding disparity with Scarborough's public transportation system. We received no answer.

With approvals of this and other mixed-use developments please ensure improved public transportation. Please help us!

*Mayor Tory Letter April 8, 2019:*

*Mayor Tory,*

*At the TANGO Toronto Neighbourhood Summit on Saturday, April 6, 2019, you discussed 'disparity' in Toronto. Agincourt Village Community Association whole heartily agrees with you.*

*Please note in the attached photo how few communities in Scarborough were represented on the TANGO map. We were shocked at how many gaps were evident compared to the rest of Toronto. We feel that Scarborough has been underserved in many ways and unrecognized for its positive contributions and diverse communities of which we who live here, are very proud. AVCA is working with five other North Scarborough community associations for the betterment of the "quality of life" of all who live here - including those who are struggling to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table.*

*Why is Scarborough not afforded the same services and considerations that the rest of the city benefits from? This kind of disparity should not be allowed.*

*Thank you for taking the time to listen to Sarah Martin and me (Rhoda Potter) as we highlighted the Agincourt Village Community concerns regarding Smart Track/Metrolinx and the potentially dangerous impact on student safety. Students in seven schools between Finch Avenue and Sheppard Avenue cross the Stouffville Corridor tracks at grade level in several locations to attend school. Specifically, a grade separation at Huntingwood Avenue/Stouffville Corridor Train Tracks is essential for student safety and traffic gridlock reduction. This is the location where you announced publically the Smart Track extension.*

*As you are aware 5,000 condominium units are proposed at Sheppard Avenue and Kennedy Road in the Agincourt Mall redevelopment proposal. Also, many more condominium developments are proposed in North Scarborough along Sheppard Avenue and on Kennedy Road at the 401. AVCA has worked very closely with North American Development Group, Councillor Karygiannis and Scarborough Planning to make sure the Agincourt Mall “complete community” becomes integrated with our established, historic broader community. However, 5,000 units probably equates to 15,000 residents – a similar number as Liberty Village. In the Liberty Village case the development happened and a public transportation challenge ensued!*

*North Scarborough especially Malvern our neighbourhood to the east, is desperately underserved regarding efficient public transportation. Adding 15,000 residents at Agincourt Mall plus more residents in other proposed developments, we feel will further impede their TTC bus trip along Sheppard Avenue as well as further the already gridlocked Kennedy Avenue/Sheppard Avenue/401 area. AVCA feels a public transportation challenge already exists and will be further exacerbated!*

*As mentioned to you, AVCA suggests a Smart Track/Metrolinx/TTC “mini hub” be created at Agincourt GO station. This will enable commuters, cyclists and pedestrians from condominium developments, Malvern community and existing Agincourt community to move freely and safely within Scarborough as well as be able to transition to public transportation more readily.*

*Disparity regarding efficient public transportation exists in North Scarborough. Safety for Agincourt students crossing Smart Track/Metrolinx Stouffville Corridor at Huntingwood Avenue is a North Scarborough concern.*

*Scarborough deserves transportation equality. If you are allowing a massive influx of population density through developments, as well as an increase in frequency of trains across residential school routes along the Stouffville Corridor, then you must also plan a lot better in terms of safety and connectivity.*

*AVCA appreciates your support of Scarborough and all Toronto communities where disparity exists. AVCA looks forward to further dialogue leading to action.*

*Rhoda Potter – President AVCA  
Sarah Martin – Secretary AVCA*