

By email to: councilmeeting@toronto.ca

May 4th, 2021

City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mayor Tory and City Council Members,

Re: Ex 23.3 Provincial Transit-Oriented Communities Program

The East Waterfront Community Association (EWCA) includes the East Bayfront, with our area of coverage starting from East of Yonge Street to Cherry Street and from Lake Shore Boulevard East down to the Waterfront. Our community area is currently undergoing massive revitalization and redevelopment. The West Don Lands and Port Lands are adjacent to us and the proposed Corktown station of the Ontario Line will be an important transit hub for our community to link to the East LRT extension at Parliament Street. We have therefore been closely monitoring and are very supportive of the investments plus ongoing expansion plans to improve the city's transit network.

EWCA attended the recent public meetings regarding the First Parliament Site. The current plans presented by Metrolinx do not appear to include the vision and guiding principles for the redevelopment as outlined in the City-led First Parliament Site Master Planning process that was developed over the last two decades in consultation with various stakeholders and local neighbourhood groups including the the West Don Lands Committee and St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association.

Given the accelerated time frame presented for this project and the intent for the Province to expropriate the First Parliament Site by August 2021, we fully support the West Don Lands Committee's request to the Executive Committee for the immediate implementation for open public consultation, on the overall development plans submitted by Infrastructure Ontario regarding the Corktown station. The redevelopment proposal for this site should include the vision and previous input of the community-driven process, namely; the provision for a heritage interpretation, a regional library space, affordable housing allocation in accordance with City's current policy, as well as public parks that are lacking in our areas. All these are so critical for families that will be close to the Corktown station transit-hub.

We urge the City Council to consider West Don Land's Committee's request to immediately facilitate closer collaboration and public consultation between Infrastructure Ontario, Metrolinx and key local stakeholders, so that the First Parliament Site redevelopment reflects and is respectful of the needs of our broader community.

Yours sincerely,



David Chan
President
Email: info@ewca.ca