



November 7, 2021

Mayor and Members of Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Re: NOVEMBER 9 COUNCIL MEETING, ITEM NO. GL 26.9

To the Mayor and Members of Council;

We would like to address Item # GL26.9, the Wellington St. Destructor.

While the proposed reimagining of Wellington St. Destructor as a community hub is likely to please the community, there are legitimate concerns that have been raised and we would like to add the following concerns and some questions to the conversation.

It is hoped that the passing of this agenda item is only the prelude to a rigorous environmental assessment. We all agree that we are in a climate crisis and the city has set targets and a GHG reduction strategy under Transform TO.

- Does this redevelopment, owned by the city, meet Transform TO emissions reductions targets both in its construction and in its maintenance?
- Are private public partnerships required to meet Transform TO targets?
- Will those targets be applied to the entire property, including the retail and housing units granted to the Lessee?

We also question the nature of the public private partnership fearing that profit is a poor guiding principle for the operation of a community asset. Councillor Cressy has stated that this management structure has precedents, citing examples like Wychwood Barns and Evergreen Brickworks, but both of those are run by not for profit organizations. Surely the city, having invested 30 Million to remediate the property and having removed the risk attached to the property by that process, could maintain control of the community hub. This would ensure that the community hub, its programs

and its maintenance will not ever be hostage to profit. Perhaps another non-profit could be engaged if the city feels that it hasn't the expertise to manage this site?

Finally, will the residential project follow the Inclusive Zoning guidelines in front of city council right now?

Thank you for taking the time to consider these questions.

Sincerely,



Ric Amis
Spokesperson, West Side Community Council
Secretary/Chair, Parkdale Residents Association

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Members of the WSCC (www.westsidecc.ca) include the Grange Community Association, the Harbord Village Residents' Association, the Garment District Neighbourhood Association, the Trinity Bellwoods Community Association, the Ossington Community Association, the Lakeview Avenue Neighbourhood Association, the Liberty Village Residents' Association, Beaconsfield Village Residents' Association, Active 18, the Parkdale Residents Association, Roncesvalles-Macdonell Residents Association, and the Bloordale Community Improvement Association.