

To: Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 12

March 18, 2021

Canada Square development – request by midtown RAs

Dear Councillor Josh Matlow,

We, a growing and united group of Midtown resident associations, are writing to express our outrage at the proposed Oxford application for the Canada Square (CS) site:

- Near absence of community services and facilities such as schools, daycares, community/recreation centre, social services, or cultural amenities
- Insufficient on-site parkland dedication
- Grossly insufficient emphasis on employment space relative to residential
- Total lack of environmental considerations with the complete destruction of all the structures on the site
- Absence of a defining vision for a 21st century community, environmental, economic, and social hub of city-wide and national significance

All of this, while we were expecting the CS lands to become an aspirational centre of the Y-E Urban Growth Centre, one of only 5 such Centres in Toronto.

In addition, we now understand that on April 26, 2018, City Council adopted, with your expressed support, a commercial transaction for the CS site (now including the bus barns) with Oxford (and parties) for a lease term of up to 200 years, granting them full development rights for this City-owned property.

The livestream of the Council discussion for agenda item EX33.7 – TTC Lands, Ground Lease (Canada Square), suggests that meagre benefits will accrue to the Midtown community and more significant benefits will accrue to the City. However, the details were hidden in confidential documents.

Only in the last week did we discover how and when City Council approved this commercial transaction. None of the undersigned were provided awareness, or the opportunity to input, regarding this agenda item. Contrary to claims made in the livestream, none of us supported this deal.

As a result of these discoveries we believe that a comprehensive study is even more necessary and urgent.

We request a meeting with you and the Midtown RA Group as soon as possible to discuss the following:

- 1) the implications of the 2018 Council meeting (EX33.7), including the content of the commercial transaction. We request a full disclosure of all contracts, discussions, documentation, meetings, minutes of meetings, agreements, leases, sales, negotiations, and consultation concerning the site.
- 2) discussion of the timing, logistics, governance, and next steps for launching and conducting a meaningful and comprehensive study for the CS site with Midtown RA Group co-governance (and prior to considering any planning and zoning amendments for this site - OPA 405, section 5.5.3).
- 3) indefinite deferral of the consideration of the Planning report or any other aspects of the application at TEYCC meeting until the comprehensive study is completed and approved.

In addition, David McMahon, President of the Oriole Park Association will be requesting a call with you at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

Geri Berholz, President Republic Residents' Association

Tom Cohen, President Eglinton Park Residents' Association (EPRA)

Andy Gort, President South Eglinton Ratepayers' and Residents' Association (SERRA)

Ann King, Chair, Community Liaison, Stanley Knowles Housing Co-operative

David McMahon, President Oriole Park Association (OPA)

Melissa Phillips, Berwick Condominium Corporation

David Ticoll, President Quantum Owners and Residents Association (QuORA)

Cc. Councillor Jaye Robinson, Ward 15

Councillor Mike Colle, Ward 8

FoNTRA – Geoff Kettel and Cathie Macdonald, co-chairs FoNTRA