Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

I am writing to ask that you vote in support of "MM36.33 – Assessing the Impacts of Iceberg Houses" by Councillor Jaye Robinson.

Iceberg houses are single-family homes with multi-storey underground basements that extend well beyond the above-ground footprint of the structure. They can have significant impacts on the environment and neighbouring properties, including:

Soil permeability and erosion;
Mature tree injuries and removals;
Drainage and stormwater management; and
Collapsing neighbouring foundations.

In November 2020, the Committee of Adjustment approved an iceberg house in Hoggs Hollow, which is a City-designated Natural Heritage System and located on a flood plain. The application was approved despite a memo from Urban Forestry recommending refusal in order to protect a healthy sugar maple tree that is estimated to be approximately 250 years old.

As a resident of the Hoggs Hollow neighbourhood, I am concerned about the future impacts of iceberg houses in Toronto and fully support Councillor Robinson’s motion. I hope you will do the same.

Thank you,

Glenn Kosick | CEO

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