



ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF TORONTO

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June 24, 2021

City Clerk's Office
City Clerk
Attention: Nancy Martins,
Administrator, Planning and Housing Committee
Queen Street West, 10th Floor, West Tower,
Toronto ON M5H 2N2

Via e-mail: phc@toronto.ca.

Dear Ms. Martins,

Re: Zoning Conformity for Official Plan Employment Areas – Phase 1 Final Report and Phase 2 Update; Proposed Amendments to City of Toronto Zoning By-law 569-2013; former Borough of East York Zoning By-law 6752 (former Township of East York) and former Borough of East York Zoning By-law 1916 (former Town of Leaside)

We are Islamic Society of Toronto (IST), not for profit charitable organization also known as Masjid Darus Salaam, registered with the Canadian government as well as with Revenue Canada. IST has been an established organization in the Greater Toronto Area since 1995 with the Place of worship at 4 Thorncliffe Park Dr. providing Islamic Education, adult and senior full time/part time programs, family counselling, after-school children programs, youth programs, summer programs and many more initiatives and projects.

Since early 1970s, IST has been serving diverse Muslim population of approximately 40,000 living within 5 kilometers radius in Thorncliffe Park, Flemingdon Park and St. Denise area by working with the local government and businesses to fulfill social, educational, and religious needs of the Muslim community that continues to grow.

In 2018 we purchased a property at 20 Overlea Blvd. and in January 2020 obtained a building permit for a major alteration to the existing building to serve as an expansion to our current facility and will also serve as a new community center and private and public recreation facility for the growing Muslim population. Our current building at 4 Thorncliffe Park Dr. that provides worship facility for Masjid Darus Salaam Mosque, is slated for demolition in the very near future so it can make room for Metrolinx's future Maintenance and Service Facility (MSF). This will require that a new property within the same neighborhood be acquired as a replacement for the existing place of worship.

Further to the recommended changes to the Employment-Industrial Zones in Zoning By-law 569-2013 to delete place of worship, place of assembly and recreation use, club, community centre, library, education use, museum, performing arts studio, and municipal shelter as permitted uses from the Employment Industrial Office Zone (EO), our community would be deprived of the essential facilities and services.

We therefore vehemently oppose the proposed amendments to zoning by-laws unless an exemption is provided for continued use of the lands for the place of worship, place of assembly and recreation use, community centre, library and education, and more so because this community has been underserved for decades.

Sincerely,

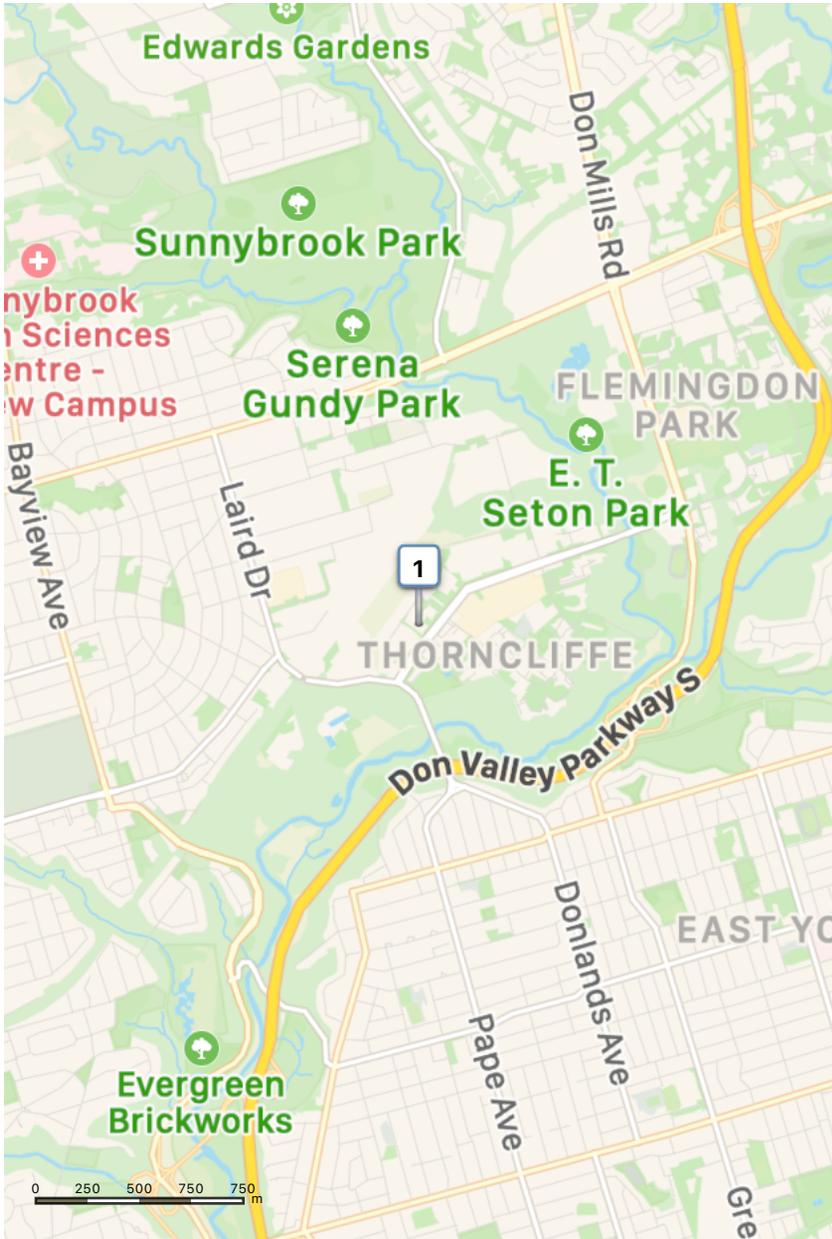
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abdul Jogiat', written in a cursive style.

Abdul Jogiat, President
Islamic Society of Toronto



20 Overlea Blvd

near East York



20 Overlea Blvd
20 Overlea Blvd

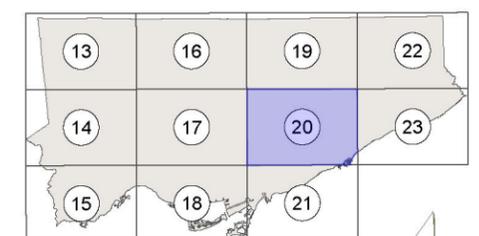
Toronto Official Plan

Map 20
Land Use Plan
February 2019

Land Use Designations

- Neighbourhoods
- Apartment Neighbourhoods
- Mixed Use Areas
- Natural Areas
- Parks
- Other Open Space Areas (Including Golf Courses, Cemeteries, Public Utilities)
- Institutional Areas
- General Employment Areas
- Core Employment Areas
- Utility Corridors

- Streets and Highways
- Railway Lines
- Hydro Corridors



Key Map

