

July 18, 2022

Toronto City Council
% Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

**RE: 2022.NY33.16 on July 19, 2022 City Council
801 York Mills Road and 1855 Leslie Street - Zoning By-law Amendment Application –
Request for Directions (Ward 16)**

Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council:

We understand our written comments to the NYCC meeting of June 28, 2022 agenda item NY33.16 have been transferred with the materials to this Toronto City Council meeting. We would like to add the following.

We are extremely disappointed in finding ourselves, the long-term residents of the York Mills and Leslie neighbourhood, in a position where we are being forced to represent ourselves at great cost at a provincial tribunal, and waste the time and resources of City officials, tribunal members, councillors and residents.

The Applicant, First Capital has decided to appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal without Community Planning's final report. Despite a world pandemic (outside City Planning's control), and a complete provincewide lockdown, they have taken advantage of an unrealistic timeline prescribed by the Planning Act to blame Council citing failure to make a decision, creating inefficiencies within City Planning.

The developer is a multi-billion dollar company with an aggressive appetite for pure profit no matter the cost. It owns a big chunk of land along York Mills Rd. from Leslie St. to Don Mills Rd. With its aggressive development it will be ruining one of Canada's first planned communities, a low-rise residential community.

We question the validity of a City Planning Department that uses hundreds of employees and spends millions of dollars every year, if it does not serve and protect the well-being of its citizens and follow its own directives. In a self-interested capitalistic environment, the government has a significant role in protecting the public good. To this effect, we would like City Planning to independently fulfil its obligations and do its due diligence fairly and responsibly. Real estate investors, developers and speculators should follow strict rules and guidelines.

We are not one or two bungalows off Yonge St. or Sheppard Ave. that can be bought out with bully offers as was the case with 1855 Leslie St. We are the hard working middle class, the bulk of the property taxpayers and not the government dependent. We are the long standing residents in a quiet, stable low-rise neighbourhood who have made a conscious decision to move here and pay a premium.

Thank you for your consideration and please provide us with notification of any decisions regarding this matter.

Yours truly,

York Mills Leslie Residents