

## **No to Dawes Road Grist Mill Heritage Designation**

Even though I am a bona fide history buff, with a two decades long record of preserving East Toronto heritage, I object to designating, and freezing the 10 Dawes Rd Grist Mill as a heritage property.

Rather, given its strategic proximity next to the Danforth GO-Main Subway station, the site's potential for offering new, truly creative social housing should not be foreclosed on.

Once GO is finally electrified the sleeper Danforth GO station will turn into East Toronto's central transit hub given that it will be only a two stop ten minute ride away from downtown Union Station.

Proof of this are the mushrooming private developed high rises already popping up from Main Street all the way to east of Dawes Rd.

With all this new assessment income stream can City Council not afford the bucks to rehabilitate this entire site – and still reflect its history?

Can City planners not envisage an imaginative green housing and community hub replacing what has been a neglected eyesore for over a century?

Can the historically key element of the mill, its headhouse, not also be preserved, and be exhibited much more prominently, in such a publicly financed creative show case redevelopment?

I'm sure this can find resonance among the broader community and become the focus for an architectural contest -- while promoting creative input from the public.

Hans Modlich  
45 Glen Stewart Crescent