



**Councillor Paul W. Ainslie**  
City of Toronto Councillor  
Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

Chair, General Government and Licensing Committee  
Chair, Board of Management of the Toronto Zoo  
Chair, Federation of Ontario Public Libraries



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Councillor Paul Ainslie Scarborough-Guildwood

Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood

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February 14, 2021

To: Chair, Deputy Mayor Ana Bailão and Planning and Housing Committee Members.

Re: PH31.7- Our Plan Toronto: Employment Area Conversion Requests - Preliminary Assessments Group 2

Dear Chair and Planning and Housing Committee Members,

As the City of Toronto Councillor for Ward 24 Scarborough-Guildwood, I would like to present this letter in support of the Mark's Choice (Bousfields Inc.) conversion request no. 018 of 1774 Ellesmere Road to non-employment uses as part of the current Growth Plan 2020 conformity exercise and Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR).

The City of Toronto is in need of housing options. I welcome the opportunity to open the door to expand housing within the neighbourhood without jeopardizing employment as I fully understand the importance of employment land as well as the need for urgency for housing. In this case, there are ample employment lands in close proximity of 1774 Ellesmere Road, to support employment in the community. 1774 Ellesmere Road would best serve the community as a residentially zoned site.

Located on a major arterial road 1774 Ellesmere Road is supported by a major transit hub at its doorstep including the future Scarborough Subway with an existing residential community to its south and the Scarborough Town Centre as a neighbour. The site demonstrates a positive walkable community for residents with access to transit, shopping and employment.

In 2021, the Housing Secretariat supported an application adjacent to 1774 Ellesmere Road located at 1744-1750 Ellesmere Road, subsequently approved for residential development. Allowing the conversion request for 1774 Ellesmere Road would build on that success.

Further, the Toronto District School Board has made an application to the Province of Ontario to fund the build of a new school within walking distance of 1774 Ellesmere Road, for several years there has been anticipation for an increase in residential density within the community.

I strongly believe that supporting the conversion request for non-employment uses at 1774 Ellesmere Road would be a benefit to the community and the City of Toronto.

Sincerely,

Paul W. Ainslie  
City of Toronto Councillor  
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