

Ward 12, Toronto – St. Paul's
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor, Suite A17
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7906
Fax: 416-392-0124
councillor_matlow@toronto.ca
www.joshmatlow.ca



June 27, 2022

Toronto and East York Community Council
100 Queen Street W
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: Oakwood-Vaughan Planning Strategy

Dear Chair and Members,

Oakwood-Vaughan is a growing neighborhood with extraordinary potential and challenges that must be addressed.

This growth, if properly and thoughtfully planned, could contribute to the community gaining much-needed social services, public spaces and infrastructure along with opportunities for affordable housing and retail.

For this reason, the Oakwood-Vaughan strategy that was adopted by City Council identified planning and development as one of the four key areas toward generating economic growth, and increasing access to social and cultural services in the neighbourhood. While significant progress has been made in the three other areas, there's been very little progress made in reviewing the current built-form, and identifying opportunities to manage development proposals within a mixed-use context.

Recently, I've heard several complaints from businesses, residents, community organizations and stakeholders, such as the Oakwood Village BIA, that many mixed-use buildings (which typically have ground floors for commercial purposes) are gradually being converted solely for residential purposes.

I'm asking city staff to initiate an effective strategy for the entire neighborhood, obviously in concert with the Little Jamaica Master Plan.

I want to ensure that the many new development applications arriving in this community are considered holistically, and that the cumulative result is considered as part of a strategy, to ensure that the community is left better than it was found- more affordable, more vibrant, safer, with great shops, social services, parks and infrastructure and improved quality of life.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. City Council request the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning to work with the Ward Councillor to establish a community consultation process for an Oakwood-Vaughan Planning

Strategy and to report back to the Toronto and East York Community Council in the second quarter of 2023.

Sincerely,

Councillor Josh Matlow
City Councillor
Toronto – St. Paul's
www.joshmatlow.ca