



June 28, 2022

Toronto and East York Community Council
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W., 2nd Floor
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Re: University of Toronto St. George Campus Secondary Plan
Final Report TE 34.8
Planning Application Number: 16 221931 STE 20 OZ**

The University of Toronto submits this letter to Toronto and East York Community Council in support of staff's recommendations to adopt an Official Plan Amendment for a new Secondary Plan for the University of Toronto St. George Campus.

The University of Toronto is a key institution within Toronto and the wider region. The University is one of the top 20 universities worldwide, with approximately 20,000 graduate students and 45,000 undergraduate students attending the St. George Campus. On 181 acres of land in Toronto's Downtown, the University operates more than 15.3 million square feet of building space and is the steward of over 50 acres of open space and over 50 listed or designated heritage buildings. In addition, the University is one of the top 10 non-government employers in Toronto with 25,000 faculty and staff, bringing \$12 billion in stimulus to the GTA and attracting over \$1.3 billion in research funding.

The University has been working towards a new University of Toronto St. George Campus Secondary Plan since 2015, to replace the existing and long-outdated 1997 Secondary Plan. Following significant consultation with staff, students, faculty and the community, the University submitted an Official Plan Amendment application, with a proposed Secondary Plan and Urban Design Guidelines, in 2016. A resubmission based upon comments received followed in 2018. City of Toronto staff have since worked to prepare city-supported versions which are now before you. As noted in the final staff report, staff have approached this Secondary Plan update in a manner akin to a planning study rather than a traditional application review, with a more rigorous community consultation process as outlined therein.

The University of Toronto is very supportive of the proposed Secondary Plan and Urban Design Guidelines being put forward for approval by City staff. We appreciate the hard work of City staff in preparing the documents, and consulting with the University, other institutions and landowners in the area, the local Residents' Associations and the wider public.

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In order to remain an academic leader, the University has needs for growth and change that will provide space for a growing student body to study, learn and live; to facilitate cutting-edge research; and to foster partnerships with industry, entrepreneurs and start-ups in our city. The University has a known track-record for environmental sustainability through implementation of its Climate Positive Master Plan and new innovative building development; heritage conservation; design excellence; and protection of important, loved open spaces that offer amenities for the campus community and the city at-large.

Given its age, the 1997 Secondary Plan is no longer consistent with current provincial and city policies, nor does it reflect the current programmatic needs of the University. As a result, the adoption of an up-to-date and relevant Secondary Plan is very important for the University - and for the local community and the City. It will establish common expectations for future growth and change related to built-form, open spaces, mobility networks, Character Areas, views and housing. We are excited for this next stage in the University's growth and development, and for the University to continue being a leader in the City and region.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Mabury', with a large loop at the beginning and a trailing line ending in a small arrowhead.

Professor Scott Mabury
Vice-President Operations and Real Estate Partnership
University of Toronto