



April 26, 2023

Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

**Attn: Nancy Martins, Secretariat**

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee:

**Re: Item PH3.17  
Update Downsview: Draft Secondary Plan and Draft Community  
Development Plan Priorities - Status Report  
City of Toronto Ward 6  
TCDSB Trustee Ward 5**

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) has reviewed the Update Downsview status report dated April 13, 2023, as well as supporting documentation including the draft Downsview Secondary Plan and Engagement Summary Report, scheduled for consideration by the Planning and Housing Committee on April 27, 2023. The TCDSB would like to take this opportunity to submit initial comments on the recently released policy documents for public review.

The draft Downsview Secondary Plan policies intend to provide an update to the 2011 Downsview Secondary Plan. In this regard, the TCDSB understands that the long-term vision of the City of Toronto for this secondary plan area is of a complete community centred on transit investment, job creation, parks and open spaces, and appropriate community services and facilities to meet the needs of existing and future residents.

The TCDSB has been an active member in the Update Downsview initiative since its inception in Fall 2021. This includes participation in all community consultations and Community Services and Facilities (CS&F) working groups.

As mentioned by the TCDSB during the various Update Downsview working groups since the Fall of 2021, planned residential development within the Downsview Secondary Plan Area will trigger significant oversubscription in local TCDSB schools. As such, the TCDSB has identified the need for **multiple school sites** within the Downsview Secondary Plan Area.

**The TCDSB wishes to continue to work with the City on further refining the draft policies relating to community services and schools in the draft Downsview Secondary Plan.**



Specifically, the TCDSB wishes to achieve policy language that both protects the interests of existing and future students and maintains flexibility as it pertains to service delivery. The TCDSB is supportive of policies that:

1. support enhanced communication between the TCDSB and the City;
2. incentivize the development community to collaborate with School Board;
3. allow School Boards to secure appropriate school sites; and
4. encourage the collaborative shared use of school facilities and parkland.

The TCDSB is aware that the Downsview Secondary Plan policies will be essential tools to secure the educational future for the Downsview Secondary Plan Area existing and future residents. They will also enable the City to realize the development of a complete community. The City, in collaboration with the TCDSB and other educational institutions, needs to get the policy language right to protect for this vision.

The TCDSB looks forward to continued consultation both with City staff, and with other stakeholders in future CS&F Update Downsview working groups. The TCDSB submits that refinements to the draft Downsview Secondary Plan and Community Development Plan policies are necessary, as they relate to schools and the sharing of school facilities and parkland, to guide the development of this unique landmark opportunity in the City of Toronto.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Loberto".

Michael Loberto  
Superintendent, Planning and Development Services  
Toronto Catholic District School Board

Cc: Maria Rizzo - Ward 5 TCDSB Trustee  
Barbara Leporati – Senior Coordinator, Planning Services  
Erica Pallotta – Senior Coordinator, Development Services  
Adam Brutto – Senior Manager of Planning & Admissions