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**Members of the Planning and Housing Committee**

City Council and Gord Perks  
Toronto City Hall  
100 Queen St W  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

I'd like to begin by expressing my gratitude to the City staff for their efforts in developing the secondary plan. Thank you for all your hard work.

As the Executive Director of the Oaks Revitalization Association, I am writing to express our organization's staunch support for the Downsview Area Secondary Plan, proposed by City of Toronto staff, and the supporting Community Development Plan. Having actively engaged in the community consultation processes surrounding this plan from the outset and witnessed firsthand Northcrest Development's (Northcrest) commitment to collaborative engagement with equity-deserving groups, I am proud to voice our firm endorsement.

In our work at the Oaks Revitalization Association, we are deeply committed to fostering meaningful opportunities for residents in our city – with a particular focus on employment and mentorship in the skilled trades. By focusing on career pathways, we ensure that our participants can build lasting financial security and stability. The Downsview Area Secondary Plan stands to significantly amplify our impact, particularly benefiting those historically marginalized in our city's Northwest.

Northcrest, leading the transformation of the 370-acre Downsview Airport Lands, has exhibited a profound commitment to collaborative stewardship of their lands. Long before development has even begun, their unwavering dedication has been evident in their meticulous planning and thoughtful engagement with stakeholders, especially equity-deserving groups. Through a shared vision and a spirit of trust and collaboration, Northcrest has shown the determination to realize the full potential of these lands.

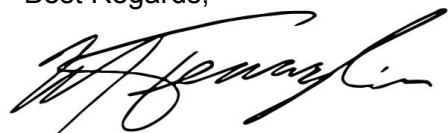
Naturally, in our work at the Oaks Revitalization, housing emerges as a linchpin, wielding transformative power that reverberates across socio-economic strata. The proposed Downsview Area Secondary Plan represents a pivotal juncture in our collective journey toward inclusive urban development, particularly concerning the nexus between housing diversity and economic empowerment. At the heart of this plan lies a dual promise for the Oaks Revitalization Association: first, the assurance of a city that remains accessible and affordable for all its residents, and second, the cultivation of substantial workforce opportunities that resonate deeply with the very individuals it serves. Diverse housing, ranging from affordable units to mixed-income developments, not only ensures a sustainable urban fabric but also serves as a catalyst for economic vitality.

By fostering a greater supply of housing across the spectrum, the Downsview Area Secondary Plan positions our city as a beacon of opportunity, where every resident—regardless of background or circumstance—can find a place to call home and a pathway to prosperity. This commitment to housing diversity not only enriches the social tapestry of our neighborhoods but also underpins the economic resilience of our workforce. Moreover, by amplifying access to housing, particularly for historically marginalized communities in the city's Northwest, this plan sets the stage for a seismic shift in our approach to community development. By providing clear and tangible pathways to employment, the plan empowers residents not only to secure stable housing but also to chart a course toward sustainable livelihoods in our city.

In endorsing the Downsview Area Secondary Plan, the Committee reaffirms its commitment to fostering an environment where diversity thrives, where opportunity abounds, and where every resident has the chance to realize their full potential. Let's seize this moment to chart a course toward a future defined not by exclusion and disparity, but by inclusivity and shared prosperity.

I urge the Planning and Housing Committee to recognize the critical importance of approval. By doing so, you reaffirm your commitment to fostering inclusive growth and equitable development in our city, laying the groundwork for a future marked by shared prosperity and opportunity for all members of our community.

Best Regards,



Mark Tenaglia