Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my profound concern regarding the proposed rezoning of a segment of Mount Pleasant Road to accommodate townhouses and low-rise buildings. While I acknowledge the city's imperative to facilitate affordable housing, I firmly believe that this particular rezoning initiative is unsuitable for our community.

Unlike arterial thoroughfares such as Bayview, Yonge, and Avenue, as well as the southern portion of Mount Pleasant Road south from Blythwood Road, the northern stretch of Mount Pleasant Road from the ravine at Blythwood Road, through Lawrence Avenue and north to Glen Echo Road, maintains a primarily residential character. This area fosters a strong sense of community, and introducing townhouses and tall buildings would fundamentally alter its essence.

Of particular concern is the ravine through which Mount Pleasant Road traverses—a haven for diverse wildlife and ecosystems. Introducing large-scale development and greater density threatens to disrupt this delicate ecological balance. The road is lined with mature trees and lush vegetation, many of which have been privately landscaped by residents, contributing to the area's aesthetic appeal. Preserving this ecological diversity should be of paramount importance to our city.

Our neighborhood is home to residents of all ages. The segment of Mount Pleasant Road under consideration for rezoning is central in our family-oriented community. Unfortunately, vehicular traffic has become an unavoidable aspect of life in the Greater Toronto Area. Introducing higher-density housing would inevitably exacerbate congestion, noise, and safety concerns, thereby compromising the quality of life for all community members. Additionally, the proposed development of taller townhouses and six-story buildings would encroach upon our privacy and diminish our enjoyment of our homes.

Lawrence Park stands as one of Toronto's esteemed residential enclaves, characterized by its tranquility and single-family residences. Further development would indisputably diminish this character and adversely affect property values, particularly for properties situated in close proximity to the proposed sites. Rezoning Mount Pleasant Road would irreversibly alter the distinctive character of our community. Therefore, while urban development is imperative to accommodate our burgeoning population, there exist numerous alternative locations within Toronto better suited to accommodate the proposed housing types.

I request that the City Council please reconsider the proposed rezoning of Mount Pleasant Road to ensure that Lawrence Park remains a bastion of serenity and community in the heart of Toronto. Let us uphold the integrity of our neighborhood and safeguard the natural splendor of our ravine and surrounding parks for present and future generations.

Sincerely,

Talyn Terzian-Gilmour