

November 10, 2025

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

RE: CC34.3 - 155 Saint Dennis Drive - Appeal of Ontario Land Tribunal Decision

To Mayor Chow and Toronto City Council:

As a lifelong resident of the Thorncliffe-Flemingdon Park community, I fully support an appeal of the Ontario Land Tribunal decision for 155 Saint Dennis Drive by the City of Toronto.

This is a particularly bad ruling by the Ontario Land Tribunal that, if not challenged by the City of Toronto, will set a dangerous precedent that developers, large and small, private and public, can build in ravines.

Not just in Toronto, but anywhere in Ontario.

155 Saint Dennis Drive in the East Don River Valley is located below the top of slope, in a location that the TRCA identifies as a hazard area.

While it is true that 1960s era apartment buildings on Linkwood Lane are located nearby to 155 Saint Dennis Drive, and that there is also a 1990s era condominium complex in proximity at Wynford Drive, all of these earlier buildings were built at top of slope.

It does not serve the public interest to undo, or risk undoing, 70 years of common sense rules and regulations put in place due to the tragedy of Hurricane Hazel in 1954 because two private parties – a golf course owner and a real estate developer – made a private deal at the expense of public safety.

Respectfully, if it is the property owner's desire to exit the golf industry, perhaps an effort can be undertaken by the City and/or the Toronto Foundation to identify a philanthropist or group of philanthropists to purchase and gift the entirety of 155 Saint Dennis Drive to Toronto's public ravine system, in the spirit of Charles Sauriol's tireless efforts that resulted in the birth of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Thank you,

Jason Ash
Thorncliffe Park, Toronto

cc.

Councillor Jon Burnside, Don Valley East
Councillor Rachel Chernos Lin, Don Valley West
Councillor Paul Ainslie, Scarborough-Guildwood, TRCA chair
Councillor Vincent Crisanti, Etobicoke North, TRCA board member

Councillor Paula Fletcher, Toronto-Danforth, TRCA board member
Councillor Parthi Kandavel, Scarborough Southwest, TRCA board member
Councillor Nick Mantas, Scarborough-Agincourt, TRCA board member
Councillor Anthony Perruzza, Humber River-Black Creek, TRCA board member
Councillor Dianne Saxe, University-Rosedale, TRCA board member
MPP Adil Shamji, Don Valley East
MPP Mary-Margaret McMahon, Beaches-East York
MP Rob Oliphant, Don Valley West
The Honourable Julie Dabrusin, MP Toronto-Danforth, Minister of Environment and Climate Change