From: <u>Liz Miller</u>

To: <u>Executive Committee</u>

Subject: [External Sender] My Comments for 2025.EX24.4 on June 17, 2025 Executive Committee

Date: June 13, 2025 10:47:56 AM

Dear City Clerk:

Please add my comments below to the agenda for the June 17,2025 Executive Committee meeting on item 2025.Ex24.4 Leveraging City-Owned Real Estate to Support City Council Objectives - Long Term Financial Plan Update.

With thanks, Liz Miller

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts:

The 66 Third Street City-owned Green P parking lot slated for removal, as I understand, used to be a residential home as was it's neighbouring lot. They were sold to the city for the very purpose of the city converting the properties into a Green P parking lot. There was, and still is, a need for parking lots to support our struggling local retail. I don't understand how the city is classifying the parking lot as under utilized when it's often at least ¾ full on a regular basis.

Its removal, combined with the development of a homeless shelter on that site, would have immediate and irreversible consequences for us. This neighbourhood already struggles with low pedestrian traffic and declining storefront activity. Losing this parking lot means:

Increased demand for parking with more limited supply not only by our local community, but from the shelter staff themselves

62% reduction in public parking capacity in New Toronto

Reduced access for customers in a car-dependent neighbourhood

A potential loss of businesses and services in New Toronto

Safety concerns associated with placing institutional-style housing in a small residential-commercial pocket

Further destabilization of an already economically fragile main street

The City's strategy, outlined in EX24.4, emphasizes using underperforming or "surplus" City properties to meet urgent housing goals. However, the Green P lot at 66 Third was erroneously categorized as underutilized. A resident-funded FOI request revealed the lot maintains 80% average occupancy—its revenue simply reflects the City's decision to charge lower rates in this particular lot.

The decision to classify 66 Third Street as `surplus' was done without community consultation or a thorough impact assessment and, as a result, makes no sense. This error will have irrevocable consequences to our retail and our community. I implore this committee and City Council to reverse the erroneous decision to convert our neighourhood parking lot into a city shelter and to leave our much needed and utilized parking lot as it is.

Thank you again for the opportunity to `voice' my concerns,

Sincerely,

Liz Miller