

Dalton Road Residents Group
35 Dalton Road, Toronto, M5R 2Y8

Re: agenda item 2026 EX29.3 (March 25, 2026): **OPN: STEM THE “SLIDE”!**

March 23, 2026.

Dear City Councillors,

We fervently urge you to support us in slowing the metaphorical mudslide that is City Staff’s Queen’s Park North (QPN) proposal – dangerously tumbling toward an approval to be considered at the May 6th, 2026 meeting of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee. We agree that this is the correct destination for the proposal. WE CAUTION THAT MAY 6th IS TOO SOON AS THE DECISION-MAKERS WILL NOT HAVE THE BENEFIT OF NECESSARY DATA UPON WHICH TO MAKE THEIR DECISION.

The Executive Committee (March 10, 2026) and Design Review Panel (March 11, 2026) imposed requirements that we believe City Staff has not yet had an opportunity to undertake, namely:

- Completion of a FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN
- Creation and use of an ADVISORY BOARD, INCLUDING RESIDENTS, to be involved in all phases of the plan.

We are extremely concerned that a decision by the Infrastructure and Environment Committee which has not considered these inputs has a high likelihood of approving a plan that would cause irreparable damage to this local treasure we call Queen’s Park North. Please require that before City Staff presents its latest QPN concepts/designs to the infrastructure and environment committee:

- Staff must first COMPLETE A FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN, WHICH MUST BE APPLIED TO A FRESHLY CONCEIVED QPN CONCEPT AND DESIGN, AND MUST PRIORITIZE THE HEALTH OF THE RARE OLD-GROWTH TREES ABOVE ALL ELSE.
- Staff must ensure that A COMMUNITY OF RESIDENTS, AS PART OF AN ADVISORY BOARD, BE IMMEDIATELY INCLUDED IN ALL PHASES OF THE PLAN.

We are grateful for the Weston Family’s proposed generous gifts of \$50M in capital costs and an additional \$50M in maintenance costs over 20 years. We request the Councillors’ presence at the precipice - to join us in welcoming this unique opportunity to protect the health of the treasured Queen’s Park North old-growth grove. This, in turn, will provide an essential, joyful and meaningful mental health respite and natural sanctuary for current and future Toronto visitors and residents in this increasingly densified urban community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Terri Hawkes

(on behalf of the Dalton Road Residents Group)

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