



**THE ANNEX
RESIDENTS'
ASSOCIATION**

PO Box 19057, RPO Walmer
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Executive Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON M5H 2N2
Attention : Cathrine Regan

March 8, 2026

exc@toronto.ca

Members of the Committee

Re Ex 29.3.

The Annex Residents' Association has been fully engaged in the City-led consultation regarding the proposed Weston Family Foundation donation for the revitalization of Queen's Park North. We welcome this initiative to preserve this precious heritage asset for now and for the future.

However, we are troubled by the design vision reflected in the Staff Report accompanying the item before you. In short, the design is too busy, more appropriate for Canada's Wonderland, not a small, delicate heritage asset. It threatens the very urban forest that makes Queen's Park North unique. It is all about "place making," not "place keeping."

The three public consultations that were held were more in the nature of "infomercials" that advanced what appeared to be a preordained design outcome rather than genuine conversations. Green space is reduced in the design in favour of structures; elements such as a 2900 sq. ft. cafe/restaurant, and other structures, an elevated tree walk, six gardens, a maze, a fountain and a reflecting pool, to name a few.

There was overwhelming community opposition to this design vision as reflected in this submission and in submissions from other residents' associations, such as the Grange Community Association and the Harbord Village Residents' Association.

We endorse the City moving ahead with the documentation to enable the donation. However, to allow for full transparency and complete community response to the proposed plans for Queen's Park North, we:

1. Request that City Council direct the General Manager of Parks and Recreation to bring a draft concept plan to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee for consideration only after the program has been fully assessed and after satisfactory consultation with the community.
2. Request that City Council direct the General Manager of Parks and Recreation to continue through design development to finalize the design with community input through public engagement and bring the final design to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee for approval prior to implementation.

Yours truly,

Henry Wiercinski

Chair, Planning & Development Committee
Annex Residents' Association