

June 5, 2026

To: Councillor Fletcher and Members of the Infrastructure and Environment Committee:

Re: IE30.8 Queen's Park North Donation - Concept Plan Update Report

Dear Councillor Fletcher,

I am a member of the Annex Residents Association (ARA), one of seven residents' associations supporting the efforts of the Friends of Queens Park (FQPN). Until recently I was a member of the ARA Planning and Development Committee. Before retiring, I was a practicing architect - Montgomery Sisam Architects - for over forty years and a member of the City of Toronto Design Review Panel for ten years.

It is my understanding that the Infrastructure and Environment Committee which you chair is to review the current proposal for Queens Park North on June 10. Attached is the site diagram presented at the most recent meeting of May 11, regarding the current state of the proposal after many months of work. Indeed, the current state of the proposal has not changed through the public engagement process. It has been a socialization of the concept. I have serious concerns regarding the latest diagrams which are unresponsive to issues expressed both by the FQPN at the Executive Committee meeting of March 10, 2026 and the City of Toronto Design Review Panel meeting of March 11, 2026. And let's be clear, these are diagrams and not serious design proposals.

For the June 10 meeting, I would anticipate that the consultant team will present either a more fully developed proposal or diagrams such as the one attached. If the former, it should be noted that a more developed proposal would not have gone through any community consultation process. If the latter, I would suggest that any approval or endorsement would be premature because the impact of the proposal on the health of the existing trees and the character and ambiance of the park cannot be judged with so little information.

At a meeting of June 1 City of Toronto Parks indicated that a restaurant with a capacity of 40 people as well as public washrooms were still part of the proposal despite the absence of any feasibility report. With respect to the restaurant and washrooms - the following information is lacking.

1. Scaled plan drawings of the restaurant, washrooms and support spaces.
2. Drawings illustrating the infrastructure required to support the delivery of food and other supplies, likely in the form of extensive paved area to accommodate vehicles and their turnaround space.
3. Drawings indicating the infrastructure required for waste removal. Is it private or city contracted removal?
4. Infrastructure for site services (water, sewer, power.....) and the location of such.
5. Construction impact, staging area, vehicular access.....
6. Scaled drawing of the outdoor eating area.
7. Fire truck access including turnaround space.

These are not minor concerns but ones significant to the health of the existing trees, the 'green oasis' and the character and ambiance of Queen's Park North.

Yours Sincerely,
David Sisam

