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Planning and Housing Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
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Dear Chair and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee

In 1967, Canada marked the Centennial of Confederation. In the spirit of the national pride and civic ethos that marked Canada's 100th year, many ambitious projects launched across the country, including planning for Scarborough's Civic Centre, Albert Campbell Square, and the Scarborough Town Centre.

For decades, the commercial and civic districts at Scarborough Centre have anchored the diverse neighbourhoods across Scarborough – both physically and in popular imagination.

I want to applaud City Staff's collaboration with residents and stakeholders as a new planning vision for Scarborough Centre has been developed over many years. Specifically, open houses and opportunities for public feedback in Scarborough, whose residents will be most impacted by the proposed changes, has played an important role in capturing the civic pulse and informing final versions of amendments to the Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan.

In keeping with the Secondary Plan's vision which recognises that "Scarborough Centre is the heart of Scarborough: an important civic and economic hub", I want to encourage all partners to continue working ambitiously to identify opportunities for further placemaking, in keeping with the ambition evident in the district's original conception in 1967.

Specifically, I look forward to supporting commitments toward public realm and community space enhancements, particularly within the civic district around Albert Campbell Square. For example, the partnerships envisioned to promote community spaces (see 11.5) could be bolstered through targeted incentives and the designation of lands for meaningful civic structures, including a sports facility or entertainment venue for example. In addition, recognizing the push for a complete community, I believe there may be opportunities for additional active commercial at-grade beyond Progress Avenue (see Map 5-5), including in the conceptual buildings around the civic district.

The amended Secondary Plan represents a milestone towards a bolder and more attractive Scarborough Centre as the area continues to evolve into the coming 10+ years. Together with the projected 30,000+ new housing units for this growth area, let's strive to build not only a complete community but a destination to support Scarborough's future prosperity.

Sincerely,



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