

Communication: C6
Committee of the Whole (PM)
February 7, 2023
Item #2

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Jacquelyn Gillis](mailto:Jacquelyn.Gillis)
Subject: FW: [External] Opposition to Z.22.036/OP.22.016 (Highway 7 Wigwoss Condo/High Rise Development)
Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 12:52:28 PM

From: Himal Shah <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2023 12:42 PM
To: Clerks@vaughan.ca; Tony Bruno <[REDACTED]>; Mary Mauti <[REDACTED]>; Marilyn lafrate <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Adriano Volpentesta <Adriano.Volpentesta@vaughan.ca>; Digna Patel <[REDACTED]>
Subject: [External] Opposition to Z.22.036/OP.22.016 (Highway 7 Wigwoss Condo/High Rise Development)

Hi, I am writing in reference to Z.22.036/OP.22.016 and my stance against this development.

My wife (Digna Patel) and I moved into this neighborhood because it's quiet and what seemed to be already developed. We live on Arrowhead Dr and the proposed highrise being constructed off highway 7 and Arrowhead already itself comes with increased traffic and congestion related issues. With this project in the works and the newer high rise off of Highway 7 and Benjamin Drive, I would have assumed that this is enough development for this quiet residential area. A third condo/highrise would sandwich this neighborhood completely. Arrowhead already has an issue with speeding cars. We live close to the intersection of Wigwoss and Arrowhead and we see cars speeding, barely stopping EVERYDAY. I can't imagine how much worse this will get after the Arrowhead condo is completed and if the city allows this proposed development off highway 7 and wigwoss to proceed.

We have a 2 and a 5 year old - and our family is too familiar with residential traffic related deaths. If you recall, on May 16th 2021, a speeding teenager (who was a visitor to the neighborhood), lost control of his car and directly hit our niece and nephew. Anaya was only 10 and Jax only 4. They both were struck while PLAYING ON THEIR OWN DRIVEWAY and killed. The grief never ends and even writing this email is a trigger for the emotional and mental trauma we constantly endure. Our families since have advocated for better traffic control and other preventative methods - however, in this situation, rejecting a large housing development in an already existing and developed residential area is the first and the best preventative method.

There were many news media articles published after the May 16th 2021 accident and we tried to read them all. One of the articles mentions Council member Marilyn lafrate visiting the house/accident site. I included Marilyn in this email and I also wanted to say thank you for the visit. Here is the link to that article:

<https://www.yorkregion.com/news-story/10396624-update-traumatized-vaughan-family-pleads-for-privacy-in-wake-of-childrens-deaths/>

The following is a piece from that article.

lafrate, who also laid flowers, said the fact that the children were in their driveway at the time left her speechless at the senselessness of it all.

"If your kids can't play safely in the driveway, where can they play?" she wondered. "It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon ... it almost makes you feel like you have to hide in your backyard because people have no respect for communities."

"People are just speeding through. It's not just this subdivision; it's older, it's younger," she said. "It's happening far too often, that's my concern. I don't understand the hurry. I don't know where people are going. I'm just really upset."

She further explained she plans on presenting a motion at the next council meeting asking staff to look at the "whole area", not just that one street.

We are strongly relying on the elected council members by its constituents to stop this. To vote against this proposal is the right thing to do. I want to further clarify that I am not against housing development and growth in general. I just don't think it is necessary for a third high rise to go up in a small already existing residential area where 2 other highrises will exist. More houses = more people living here = more visitors = more cars/congestion which leads to higher chances of speeders and accidents. I strongly oppose Z.22.036/OP.22.016 (Highway 7 Wigwoss Condo/High Rise Development).

Thank you,
Himal Shah
■ Arrowhead Dr

Please reply to confirm you received this email, thanks.