

C24
COMMUNICATION
COUNCIL - April 25, 2023
CW (PM) - Report No. 17, Item 4

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: [Adelina Bellisario](mailto:Adelina.Bellisario)
Subject: FW: [External] Objection to Proposed Development: Z.22.043 Location: Block 279, 65M-4491, 87 Keatley Drive
Date: April-12-23 3:57:30 PM

From: Michael Salerno [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 3:48 PM
To: DevelopmentPlanning@vaughan.ca; Clerks@vaughan.ca; Chris Ainsworth <Chris.Ainsworth@vaughan.ca>; Cindy Furfaro <Cindy.Furfaro@vaughan.ca>; Steven Del Duca <Steven.DelDuca@vaughan.ca>; Linda Jackson <Linda.Jackson@vaughan.ca>; Mario Ferri <Mario.Ferri@vaughan.ca>; Gino Rosati <Gino.Rosati@vaughan.ca>; Mario G. Racco <MarioG.Racco@vaughan.ca>; Marilyn lafrate <Marilyn.lafrate@vaughan.ca>; Adriano Volpentesta <Adriano.Volpentesta@vaughan.ca>; Rosanna DeFrancesca <Rosanna.DeFrancesca@vaughan.ca>; Gila Martow <Gila.Martow@vaughan.ca>; [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] Objection to Proposed Development: Z.22.043 Location: Block 279, 65M-4491, 87 Keatley Drive

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a resident of Vaughan (Upper Thornhill Estates) and am writing to express my strong opposition to Application # OP.22.022 and Z.22.043 submitted to The City of Vaughan Council/Committee for re-zoning and re-amendment of the property at 87 Keatley Drive.

I and more than 1,300 local community members have come together to petition against this application. We implore you to visit this link and read the comments put forward, www.change.org/preserveupperthornhillestates.

The proposed 15-storey high rise condo development that is being considered for construction is not compatible with the detached family homes in our low-rise, low-density neighbourhood. As a resident of this community, I am deeply concerned about the impact this development will have on the character and quality of life of our neighbourhood.

The current land use zoning for this area is designated as Neighbourhood Commercial, and I strongly believe that it should remain this way. The addition of a high-rise condo building would fundamentally alter the character of our neighbourhood and bring numerous negative impacts, including:

- **Plan incompatibility with low-rise, low-density community:** The proposed plan is incompatible with Vaughan's original plan of a low-rise, low-density community. This subdivision was introduced and sold with a vision of low-rise, low-density homes. When buying our homes and moving to Vaughan, we were sold on the vision and promise of a low-density community.

- **Increased traffic:** The traffic going in and out of the subdivision is already heavy, and this stretch of Bathurst is not a rapid transit corridor or a high-volume public transit corridor – there is no subway, no rapid transit bus routes, and no GO bus routes along this corridor. Via Romano and Fitzmaurice are already well known for having a high volume of vehicles speeding through and have been raised with the city previously.

- **Overcrowding and Safety:** I am shocked to see how the main entrance for the proposed 15-storey residential building will be located on a quiet residential street. Families on this street will not be able to enjoy their homes or property due to the noise, congestion, pollution, and overall safety concerns of cars coming in and out using a narrow residential street at all hours of the day and night. A street in which children play freely outside will be destroyed. There are too many proposed residences in this plan, and I do not feel safe with adding hundreds of new residents into the neighbourhood from a traffic perspective, safety services access, and utilities services access. We already have cars whizzing by our house rushing to avoid traffic and I am very concerned for my family's safety.

- **Strain on local services and infrastructure:** The addition of a high-rise condo would place an undue strain on local services and infrastructure, including schools, public transportation, water, electricity, sewer allocation and public recreation services. The local schools are already stretched for resources and classes are at capacity.

- **Environmental impact:** The construction of a high-rise condo building would also have negative environmental impacts, including increased carbon emissions from construction and transportation.

- **Quality of life:** A high-rise condo development in a low-density, residential area would drastically alter the quality of life for residents in the surrounding area. It would increase noise pollution and obstruct views, creating a sense of claustrophobia for those living in the area.

In conclusion, I strongly urge the City Planning Department to reconsider the proposed 15-storey high rise condo development considering the significant negative impacts it would have on our neighbourhood. I respectfully request that the land be preserved as low-rise Neighbourhood Commercial, to maintain the character, quality of life, and the original plan created by the Vaughan planning department.

Again, please strongly consider that we purchased our homes with the expectation there would be a small commercial plaza at this location, which

would blend nicely into our neighbourhood, NOT the proposed condo development. Further, we have no desire to negotiate down to a 4-10 storey concept either.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Michael Salerno
[REDACTED] Lady Valentina Ave.
Vaughan, Ontario
[REDACTED]