Dear Mr. Coles, Mayor Bevilacqua, and Councillor Shefman

Please register my objection to the proposed development plans at the Yonge & Steeles neighbourhood, including several condo skyscrapers up to 54 stories tall. The proposed density is on a massive scale that would overwhelm existing infrastructure in the neighbourhood. The proposed density is between double and triple that allowed in the Secondary Plan. The existing facilities and infrastructure will not be able to support this large an increase in population. How are these thousands of new neighbours, and the existing residents, supposed to drive on the streets, get onto transit, draw from the existing power grid, or even walk down the sidewalk?

We understand some condos are necessary to combat sprawl, but development on this massive scale is irresponsible and short-sighted. Surely fewer towers and shorter heights, so as not to overwhelm existing infrastructure and make the neighbourhood unliveable, would be acceptable. There seems to be no motivation for these numerous and massive towers besides to squeeze every drop of profit out of these
lots for the developers, and collect property tax revenues from thousands of new units. In several years, when the construction has destroyed the neighbourhood, the developers have made off with their millions and millions of dollars, and the current mayor and council are all comfortably retired, we ratepayers will have to bear the burden of these irresponsible choices. We will be stuck in our cars on packed streets, facing frequent power failures from an overburdened grid, and trying to get onto buses, trains, and LRTs over capacity.

It is also concerning that the public hearings planned for September, when your constituents would be able to voice concerns and talk to developers and council, have been cancelled and replaced with a July date, when many people are on vacation and the pandemic and quarantine will surely not be over, meaning in-person hearings will be impossible, and any hearing virtual hearing will be sparsely attended. These massive projects should not be pushed through without adequate opportunity to hear from ratepayers.

Your responsibility is to your constituents, not to developers.

Please keep me informed of any actions Council may take on these proposals.

Keith Taller