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COMMUNICATION
COUNCIL – October 20, 2021
CW (Clsd) - Report No. 47, Item 3

From: Clerks@vaughan.ca
To: Adelina Bellisario
Subject: FW: [External] URGENT: 4101 Rutherford Rd Application
Date: October-13-21 11:41:41 AM

From: Josh Ingram [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Maurizio Bevilacqua <Maurizio.Bevilacqua@vaughan.ca>; Rosanna DeFrancesca <Rosanna.DeFrancesca@vaughan.ca>; Mario Ferri <Mario.Ferri@vaughan.ca>; Linda Jackson <Linda.Jackson@vaughan.ca>; Gino Rosati <Gino.Rosati@vaughan.ca>; Alan Shefman <Alan.Shefman@vaughan.ca>; Marilyn Iafrate <Marilyn.Iafrate@vaughan.ca>; Sandra Yeung Racco <Sandra.Racco@vaughan.ca>; Tony Carella <Tony.Carella@vaughan.ca>
Cc: Todd Coles <Todd.Coles@vaughan.ca>; Clerks@vaughan.ca
Subject: [External] URGENT: 4101 Rutherford Rd Application

Good morning Vaughan Council and City Clerk,

The Weston Downs community has been unified against the 4101 Rutherford Rd application (7-storeys) since it was made in June 2019. While some residents are against any development, most of the residents appreciate that a structure will be built but the expectation is that it conforms to the 2010 Vaughan Official Plan criteria on height (4-storeys) and density (1.5 FSI). Over 1,800 signatures were collected and over 500 local residents came to the public hearing held on September 17, 2019.

Since that time, the applicant changed his submission (6-storeys), and despite the Weston Downs community's clear objection to the application, City planners submitted a positive report that was very light on data, rationale, and any form of concrete justification, and made connections and drew conclusions that were highly subjective and questionable.

On May 18, 2021, Councillor De Francesca made a commitment stating that Vaughan Council would turn down the application if Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT)-led mediation failed.

Given the applicant's current appeal proceeding at the OLT over their original 7-storey submission, it is evident that the applicant did not want to mediate with the Weston Downs community or the City. The applicant is now proceeding to obtain a decision from the OLT on the original submission, going directly over the City's elected officials and its residents. These actions demonstrate a total disregard for due process, community input, and the decision-making ability of locally elected public officials.

Vaughan Council must keep its commitment to the Weston Downs community by turning down the 6-storey application, on record, and defending the City and its residents on the 7-storey appeal by hiring independent legal counsel and appropriate experts to represent the City at the Ontario Lands Tribunal as a party to the applicant's appeal.

Resident of Weston Downs,

Josh Ingram