

INTENDED DELEGATE NOTES COMMUNITY PLANNING AND SPECIAL COUNCIL

The window that was provided for reviewing the various Burlington community (staff, residents, developers, businesses) perspectives that this Committee must consider when coming up with a recommendation for approval by Council is disrespectfully small.

As councillors know our role when we come before Committee or Council to be heard is generally as Community Health, Safety and Access Advocates governed by “Work for the well-being of the city to which I sent you.” Jeremiah 29:7. Today we are also here in our capacity as property owners (very confused property owners). Confused because the city OP claimed we were part of the UGC with the Molinara development on the corner of Brant and Ghent on one side and a Long Term Care Centre whose address is actually on Hagar on the other side of our two building condo complex 1415 and 1425 Ghent Avenue .

The Region OP on the other hand sees only the Molinara Development included in this UGC.

While Heather MacDonald has been the most helpful to bring clarity to our situation which very much puts our end of life plans (we only intend to leave our home on permanent basis for Smith’s funeral home) and investment at risk we still do not have an answer to when our residence got put in the UGC despite not being in the Region OP and all members of council playing a part in the Region OP. It has been our plan since 1996 when we bought our condo to help us manage Anne’s significant disability since birth and be able to continue with our community work that we would not be going into a retirement home or LTC.

Despite reading all the reports and making enquiries of the city and region right up until last night we still do not have the proof that the city is compliant with the Region OP and the Region OP UGC stops right after the Molinara Development excluding our condo and the Long Term Care Centre.

If despite our Herculean efforts to get this information we can feel nothing but empathy with those whose issues are far more complex than ours and all have a bearing on the well-being of our city.

Last night at the Region Q and A on the Burlington Downtown project to remove the MTSA and move the UGC we heard that the end product of this exercise would give strength to the city in the appeal process for OPA 119 for which Anne is an appellant.

This brought light to the Council's motivation in reducing the opportunity for all affected parties in getting their say on whether this Notice of Decision represents a good thing or bad thing for our Burlington and the strong voices we see represented on the delegation list today.

Review of the delegations shows good strong arguments being put forth that need to be respected in terms of considering what is in the best interests of the city and what do the stakeholders rather than this council want.

We leave you with the thought that the council that makes the decision on the recommendation of this committee is the same 7 people. However, the voices you may have heard at the Council meeting that considers the recommendation could well have been very different, if the Special Council meeting had not immediately followed Council.