

“I commend the City of Burlington for inviting additional feedback on the proposed Millcroft development.

My husband and I used to live in Toronto, working downtown as young professionals and living in Bloor West where we loved the vibrant neighborhood. As we started to think about raising a family, we made the conscious decision to not just move out into the 905 area – we specifically selected Burlington. We understood the somewhat longer commute compared to Oakville and Mississauga, but the family friendly feel, low density, distinct neighborhoods, green spaces and proximity to nature made it well worth it for us.

We have lived in Burlington for almost 12 years now. Our two kids, aged 7 and 9, spend lots of their free time outside, playing basketball and hockey in the street, walking to school and neighborhood parks and having many of their friends within walking distance. We know many of our neighbors and have formed lots of new friendships. It’s a tightly knit community where we help each other walk our kids to school, watch them play outside and grow up together. We love going to the downtown area, walking along the Burlington Waterfront and exploring downtown shops. But Millcroft is where we live and play. It’s where we raise our family – every day.

We urge you to not take this away. The development may seem immaterial from a distance. It is not for us.

- We worry about the construction phase, where increased traffic will make local roads less safe for our children.
- We worry about increased congestion around the neighborhood, where during normal rush hour a drive up from Appleby Go Station can easily take 30 minutes already.
- We worry about how reduced green space will impact the local environment and natural diversity.
- We worry about how these changes will impact neighborhood turnover and weaken the fabric of the community.

You invited us to comment. It tells me that you are not taking this decision lightly. I hope the above was helpful in bringing a number of our concerns to light. I know my neighbors share these – some have additional ones. We trust you consider these as you decide on the proposal. “

Kathrin Forrest