

August 8, 2020

CPRM-07-20

CPRM August 11, 2020

Burlington City Council and Mayor of Burlington,

Dear City Council Members and Mayor of Burlington,

I am writing to advise of my strong objections to the revised development plan for 1085 Clearview Avenue. I live at [REDACTED] St. Matthews Avenue and purchased the home in 2019. I specifically moved to this part of Aldershot due to a strong affinity and sincere appreciation of this unique neighbourhood. I specifically chose this pocket of Aldershot because this was a quiet, family focused neighbourhood that was walkable, quiet and safe. I chose this street and home because of the large mature trees, quiet setting and to be closer to our grandchildren (who live one block away and within a 2 minute walk). This is a wonderful community, where people know one another, are kind to one another and help one another.

Our home will border the new development. The proposed development will run the entire length of our property and the buildings will be meters from our yard, forever changing the nature of our property, neighbourhood and lives. I would like to articulate just a few of our concerns regarding this development.

- **Noise and Quality of Life (Construction):** This is a major construction project that will take at least 2 years to complete. We will have to experience excavation, use of cranes, excessive noise, high volume of truck and commercial traffic for 12 hours per day, for 6 days per week for over 2 years. Our property will be constantly shaking by the construction and covered in dust and other construction material. The exhaust from the site and trucks that will be constantly in operation will be something we will be breathing and absorbing for over 2 years. The commercial vehicles will be in constant operation. These vehicles will provide a steady flow of traffic, causing significant traffic disruption and an increased risk to the resident of this area. The commercial vehicles will also discharge a constant flow of dangerous exhaust into our neighbourhood and homes.
- **Noise and Quality of Life (Post Construction):** There are going to be over 162 units on the other side of the fence from my property. There will be over 200 cars, housed mostly in underground parking units. The exhaust from these vehicles will flow generally to the neighbourhood and specifically to the homes within the closest proximate range of the buildings. These heating/cooling and exhaust units will be loud and forever change the quality of life for their neighbours. There are privacy issues of having 2 six story buildings forced into our quiet community. I know my fellow neighbours have expressed their concerns about this issue. I have a very serious concern around privacy given that two six story buildings will be metres from my property line and a constant presence in my back yard. We will have shadows in our yard and this will impact our quality of life and enjoyment of our yard.
- **Environmental Concerns:** This is a mature neighbourhood with large trees and many species of birds and animals. The construction will involve disruption of the ecosystem and destruction of many trees and plants. The exhaust during construction from the constantly in use commercial vehicles will be excessive and harmful. Prior to the development, the two homes and church where the development is proposed was the home for only a few vehicles. The development will now have

over 200 cars in this space and all that brings from safety, traffic and environmental concerns. This will introduce more exhaust and pollution into the area and will directly be released into our community and homes.

- **Safety for our Children:** This is a family oriented community where the children safely walk and play. The two most directly impacted streets are courts (dead ends). The families living here, specifically chose to live here in order to have a quiet, walkable, safe place to raise families and enjoy a quiet life. Our neighbourhood does not have sidewalks and our children use the quiet streets to walk, run, play, bike ride etc.

The compromises proposed by the developer are intellectually dishonest. We are bullied and asking for the City of Burlington to protect our wonderful community.. We are asking council to stand up for the residents of our community and do the right thing.

The new proposal provides the developer with more units to sell and more opportunity to make money. Where once there was one large building, there are now two 6 story buildings. The cynic would suggest that the developer never planned for a 1 massive building to be approved and then " compromise " of 2 six story buildings was the plan all along. The compromise is not really a compromise, but provides the appearance of one, for those who won't look closely at the details. The developer has made some minor modifications that do not address the real concerns of the residents of this community. The residents are united and very clear that we do not want these buildings in our neighbourhood. The residents have respectfully articulated valid concerns: safety of our children, traffic, noise, pollution, significant disruption to quality of life, stress on the current infrastructure etc. This new proposal does not address any of the concerns other than to provide the developer more units to sell and the appearance of a compromise. This is a quiet family neighbourhood, a great place to live. It is unacceptable that this area which is currently zoned low density residential, where currently sits a church and two family homes, be converted to two apartment buildings with over 160 units and 200 cars.

I have spoken personally, face to face with many of my neighbours. I have also communicated via text and email. This community is passionate and united, against this development. Some of these good people, are unable to make it to the meeting today and have requested that I speak to their concerns. I have attached their comments as an appendix to this letter. It is unfortunate that the people of this community were not more thoroughly advised of the status and process of this appeal. I do appreciate that the minimum required standards regarding notice were most likely complied with, but this is the bare minimum and frankly and unfortunate way to treat your neighbours and friends. The more appropriate and " right thing " to do, would be to engage the community in a genuine and proactive manner.

We appreciate the opportunity to speak to these issues and to engage in true collaboration to find the best outcome for the community.

Kind regards,

Roger B. MacDonald

