

Dear Stan:

As you are aware, the City of Toronto requested the Province issue an MZO to enable fast-tracking the proposed Modular Supportive Housing project at 175 Cummer Avenue. On Monday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 our City Councillor John Filion sent an E-mail advising of a “New Consultation Meeting This Week” to be held virtually on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

We do not want to go into the distasteful tone of the E-Mail other than to say it was discourteous, finger pointing and generally, in bad taste and from. (In the event that you did not see the E-Mail from the Councillor, let me know and I can forward it to you.) What is more noteworthy is the extremely short notice for this “Community Engagement Meeting” and that this one was scheduled to be 25% shorter than any previous meetings of this type and we believe shorter than any other held by the City for any of the Modular Supportive Housing virtual meetings. The SCA is also concerned that our City representative would schedule a meeting about his community at a time when he could not and would not attend. Further, Mr. Filion essentially has said he has “checked out” on this initiative as he does not want to hear views of others who do not have the same view that he has.

As it seems to be the norm for these meetings held by the City, it is not possible to know who and/or how many people are attending and trying to participate. Anyone could say there were 10 or 10,000 people as only those presenting or on-hand to answer questions are listed on the screen.

The view of many residents with the SCA and beyond is the meeting was not about engagement or hearing concerns but rather, it afforded the City and in this case, representatives of agencies hired by the City in two of the now up and running Modular Supportive Housing locations to “sell” the attendees on how wonderful everything is at those two locations. While that may or may not be the case, the SCA believes this is not why the meeting should have been held.

The purpose of the Meeting, which we believe you also believe, was to be able to ask questions about this specific location – 175 Cummer. When questions were asked, in most instances the responses were along the lines of “cannot comment”, “that is not public information”, “do not know” and so on. It is SCA’s belief, given the amount of discussion leading up to this hastily called meeting, the representatives of the City should have anticipated and been prepared to answer questions with real answers. Especially given many of the representatives were Senior Staff and in a position to “know”, the lack of substantive answers is, to say the least, disappointing.

The City people keep saying more than 50 sites have been looked at yet they will not reveal other locations in Willowdale. It has many people shaking their heads about this secrecy.

One person asked about this type of initiative in the wealthier neighbourhoods of Toronto and City staff was quick to respond and spoke about 877 Yonge Street. This site was “Fellowship Towers” and was recently purchased by the City as a Supportive Housing Development.

Fellowship Towers was an assisted living retirement community that recently closed. City Staff were essentially boasting that this is in Rosedale. While it may in fact be in Rosedale it is an existing high rise building and presumably a great location. How City staff trumpeted this location as a good and fair comparison to 175 Cummer is difficult to fathom.

Some participants of the meeting chose to dispute the use of the green space by those living in the adjacent Senior's residence as a "new" occurrence and is only be utilized to try and stop the project. Whether this is the case or not is not that important. What is important is the fact some choose to minimize the importance of the green space for the community at large and specifically, the Senior's living beside it. A City staff person even made the point this green space is not "official" green space in our starved community for green space.

We could go on about this meeting but will stop at this point as we suspect you understand the tone of the meeting and our on-going concerns.

The SCA wants to make it clear that we do not believe 175 Cummer is an appropriate site for a Modular Supportive Housing Initiative. The SCA believes, if built, the residents of this location would be very poorly served with respect to the types of services they need as they are not readily available locally.

The SCA also wants to make it clear that we are in support of this type of initiative in a location that would best serve its residents. This is one of the reasons many continually ask the City ... where else have you looked in Willowdale and perhaps why so many are frustrated in not being able to get answers.

In closing, thank you for your time and assistance with this situation and **we trust you will continue to be in support of our quest for an MZO for 175 Cummer NOT BE GRANTED.**

For and on behalf of the Silverview Community Association,

Jeff Horodyski  
President, Silverview Community Association  
[information@silverview.ca](mailto:information@silverview.ca)  
<https://silverview.ca>