

From: Margaret Bergshoeff
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 6:10 PM
To: Clerks Public
Subject: March 18 Development Services Committee Mtg., Agenda item #9.1

Members of the Development Services Committee,

I am writing to request your vote in favour of item #9.1 on your agenda - the Neamsby Investment applications for official plan and zoning by-law amendments at 5933 14th Avenue near Markham Road.

During the Provincial Election Campaign just past and the Federal Liberal Leadership Campaign which culminated on March 9 there were frequent references to "Canada's Housing Crisis".

We have all seen on newscasts pictures of tent encampments in City Parks often accompanied by scenes of the unhoused being driven out of these meagre dwellings by local authorities.

The 14th Avenue project up for approval by your Committee today will create 819 rental housing units in 3 apartment buildings, the larger two apartments being built by well-known developer Remington. The smaller apartment building will provide 161 units of affordable housing and is a project of the non-profit group MICAHA (Markham Inter-church Committee for Affordable Housing). Over the past 30 years MICAHA has created four other successful affordable housing developments in Markham - Cedarcrest Manor, Robinson Mews, Tony Wong Place and most recently Larry Tod Place.

In the Toronto Star today there appeared an article headlined "Mayors Must do More to Get Housing Built" by Kelly Singh. The article states that municipal rules make it difficult, expensive and time-consuming to build homes. It explains that Donald Trump's tariffs will make building materials more expensive causing home prices to soar. It then says "By immediately eliminating barriers to building homes, Ontario municipalities could recharge the housing sector and give Canada the purchasing power it needs to beat tariff-affected products".

Now is the time to approve rental projects such as the one being discussed here today. We need to get shovels in the ground and construction materials purchased before Trump's looming Tariff War makes it impossible to proceed with such projects.

We ask you to vote in favour of the recommendations in the report.

Sincerely,

Margaret and Ilon Bergshoeff