

Hello Councilor Hamilton:

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule and personally meet us on Friday July 9, 2010 to discuss the issues regarding the change of our house number from 4 Chimenti Court to either 2A or 6A Chimenti Court. Based on our discussions, we hereby formally request you as our Ward Councilor to take appropriate action at the Town of Markham as well as at Town's Planning Department to have the house number changed from 4 to 2A or 6A, as noted above.

In support of our request, we submit the following for your consideration:

- You may be aware of the fact that 4 (four) represents something extremely unpleasant. Accordingly, we are having a lot of difficulty in selling our property because Town of Markham and York Region as a whole is predominantly populated by the Chinese community for whom the number 4 stands for "death". Also, inviting my daughter's Asian friends over for a party/sleepover is a problem because some of them politely refuse to come due to the number. The number 4 is a real problem not only the Chinese community but others as well. For 70% to 80% of the residents of Markham/York Region this is a very strongly held belief, no different than a belief in Christianity, Buddhism or God and therefore, should not be discounted as superstition as was done by a Councilor at one of the recent Town Council meetings. Besides, in our democracy, isn't it incumbent upon the elected representatives of the Town to reflect the views and meet the needs of the majority of its residents!
- In spite of the fact that alpha numeric property numbers have been issued before, much to our surprise, the Planning Department of the Town maintains that they do not issue such numbers because it would make it difficult or confusing for the Police, the Fire Department and the Ambulances to locate addresses in times of emergencies. This argument may have held some credence, if any, several years ago. However, with today's communication and other sophisticated technologies such as GPS, etc, we do not believe that this argument holds water anymore. Besides, the number change we are requesting is consistent with the numbers on many other properties in the Markham area as well as the York Region. For example, in my neighborhood on the Main Street, Unionville, there are properties with the street addresses as 147, 147A, 155, 155A, etc. Also, there are properties on Station Lane off the Main Street, Unionville with the street addresses as 6A, 6B, 6C, 6D, 8A, 8B, 8C, 8D; on Graydon Crescent there are two properties which have the addresses as 42 and 42A presumably to avoid the number 44.
- It was also mentioned in one of the recent Town's Council meetings that allowing the change of property numbers would result in a "tsunami". Well, if it were true, the Town Council should be delighted that while making 70% to 80% of its residents happy by eliminating this unwarranted irritant without any detrimental effect to the Town of Markham, the Town would be able to generate hundreds of thousands of dollars in these difficult economic times to pay for the much needed programs (without increasing taxes!) by collecting the designated fee of \$500 per change of address. We believe this is a win-win situation for the Town and its residents

- Finally, please note that when we purchased this property from the builder (Rodeo Homes), only a Plot Number was assigned and we were not aware of the fact that street address of this property would be designated as number 4. If we had known, we would have never purchased this property.

Councilor, we are confident that we can depend on you to help us favorably resolve this issue.

Once again, many thanks!

Mansurall and Azmeena Kara