

February 19, 2016

Mayor and Council, City of Barrie and Legislative and Court Services
c/o Stephen Naylor, stephen.naylor@barrie.ca

Dear Mayor and Council,

Re: Comments on Proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) and Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA) –
Historic Neighbourhood Defined Policy Area

Thank you for the Notice on the proposed OPA and ZBA concerning the Historic Neighbourhood Defined Policy Area located around the Urban Growth Centre and the special Heritage Character zones.

We own a 6-plex at 147 Cumberland St. It is all-brick and was constructed in 1965. It is situated in amongst other similar structures including structures built around the same time. That is, our end of Cumberland St, east of Millburn St, is not that 'historic'. This is why we believe that while the intention of the proposed policy is good, it is not appropriate to apply to Cumberland St east of Millburn. Rather, the proposed policy and zoning is more appropriately-suited to other areas as identified in the Notice where homes do contain true heritage value.

Note that the intended zone to apply to 147 Cumberland would seem to be Multiple Residential first density Special Heritage Character Zone One although in the Notice there is reference on page 1 to Map 2 containing the RM1 (SP-HC2) Zone – in fact, Map 2 shows this property as RM1 (SP-HC1) Zone.

On Cumberland St, east of Millburn, there is only one home that would have heritage value. Properties directly across the road from ours are currently being redeveloped (which involved demolition) and others, further east, have already been redeveloped with some very attractive townhomes. All of the redevelopment which has occurred, and is occurring, is to the benefit of the neighbourhood and the City. The benefits of redevelopment in the area which does not involve heritage homes would include, an increase to property value, an insertion of intensification and the provision of added affordable housing to Barrie's housing stock. It is our belief that by modifying the proposed boundaries, redevelopment and renewal could occur which would assist in bringing benefit to the neighbourhood and the City in a manner which could support the Historic Neighbourhood.

It is our understanding that Barrie values intensification and is in need of further affordable housing units. We are interested at some point to reinvest in our property in a manner which will achieve these goals. We believe that Barrie's intentions concerning preserving a historical neighbourhood are good but misplaced if considering Cumberland St east of Millburn St. This location would be better suited for redevelopment since homes are, for the most part, newer than the late sixties. There is not the character here that the heritage homes nearby hold. Again, we are looking to reinvest and do not wish to be restricted in our plans to bring a more attractive and yet compact housing project to the area. This

is, in fact, a great area for a mixture of housing which could harmonize with the historical components of our City, with public transit including GO nearby.

While we look forward to working with the City in its initiatives to preserve history and to promote a strong community with varying components and forms of housing all at the same time, we must oppose the planned implementation of the proposed OPA and ZBA (RM1 (SP-HC1) Zone) as they would apply to 147 Cumberland St and/or Cumberland St east of Millburn.

Sincerely,

Colleen Healey and Terry Dowdall,