

To whom it may concern,

We are residents of the neighbourhood that the proposed apartment and cluster townhouse development will directly impact. We live on Starwood Drive, and our house will back on to the new development. Our family enjoys our quiet backyard and the natural heritage system we are fortunate to have in our neighbourhood. Although we understand that growth and development are inevitable living in a city, we fear that the close proximity of the proposed apartment building, townhouse cluster, and laneway to our backyard may bring unwanted noise, light, and air pollution, as well as possible safety and privacy concerns. We also worry about the new development's adverse effects on the ecosystem in our neighbourhood. From our backyard, we have been lucky enough to see several species of birds as well as fireflies, deer, coyotes, chipmunks, possums, and squirrels. We highly value this wildlife and the surrounding wetlands and woodlands in our neighbourhood and fear that the proposed apartment and cluster townhouse development would negatively impact our community's natural heritage system.

Below are some questions and concerns we have about the proposed apartment and cluster townhouse development.

- We reviewed the developer's documents and see that they plan to put a laneway close to the backyards of the houses on Starwood Drive. How far will the laneway be from the backyards of these houses? How will the maintenance of the laneway impact our backyards? For example, when the laneway needs to be salted/sanded and plowed in the winter, will the debris from the laneway enter our backyards and negatively affect the vegetation (e.g., grass, trees, gardens, etc.)? What impact will this debris have on children and pets who use the backyard year-round?
- We understand that the developer plans to put vegetation (i.e., a hedge) between the Starwood Drive backyards and the laneway. What type of hedge do the developers plan to use? How will this new vegetation affect the vegetation that already exists in the backyards of residents who live on Starwood Drive? Will the developer's planned vegetation provide some privacy and security for the Starwood Drive backyards?
- We assume the laneway, apartment building, and cluster townhouses will have streetlights and additional lighting. Will this extra lighting create unnecessary light pollution for the houses near the proposed development? Will this light spill into the backyards and homes on Starwood Drive?
- We have a large tree in our backyard inside our property line (it is tree T4 on the developer's vegetation plan). It looks like the developer has a plan to protect this tree, but what happens if they can't save it and it is lost during the construction of the development? Will the developer replace it? It is a mature tree that provides valuable privacy and shade in our backyard.
- What plans do the developers have to protect the families in the existing neighbourhoods during the building of the development? For example, plans to control air and noise pollution? What about the planned methods to control or eliminate the existing invasive plant species (e.g., Buckthorn)? How will the developer ensure that the

herbicides used do not affect the existing vegetation in Starwood Drive residents' backyards? For example, some residents grow vegetables, herbs, and fruit for consumption in their backyards. How will the developers ensure that the herbicides used in such close proximity to our backyards do not affect existing vegetation or the health of children and pets who use these backyards?

- The new development will be adjacent to the existing wetlands and woodlands in the area. How will the development impact the existing ecosystem? The new development will undoubtedly degrade this landscape (the vegetation plan shows that the developer plans to cut down 65 mature and healthy trees). What lasting effects will this degradation have on the area's ecosystem? For example, how will eliminating this green space and mature vegetation affect pollution abatement, stormwater management, water regulation, wildlife habitat, and biodiversity in the area?

As you can tell, our most significant concerns with the proposed apartment and cluster townhouse development are the proximity of the laneway and proposed building structures to the backyards of Starwood Drive and the disruption of the area's natural heritage system. We look forward to hearing how the developer plans to maintain the privacy and security of the houses on Starwood Drive and how they will protect the ecosystem in our neighbourhood.

Thank you for your time,

Megan and Kris Pickard