

From: Rima Dornfeld <[REDACTED]>
Sent: May 11, 2021 8:20 AM
To: Agenda <agenda@caledon.ca>
Subject: Comments on Proposed Developments 0 Mount Pleasant Road and Mount Hope Road - Planning Committee Meeting May 11/21

To the Planning Committee:

Please accept my comments as part of the community input that you are conducting on these proposed developments. I was too late to be added to the agenda as a speaker.

I object to the proposed developments on the grounds that they are located on environmentally-sensitive land. These lands are designated Oak Ridges Moraine EPA2 ORM for many reasons, including that they are an important part of the headwaters of the Humber River, which itself has been designated a Heritage River. They also are part of the watershed which many existing residents already depend upon.

The planning documents for the 0 Mount Pleasant parcel clearly show that there are two areas where underground water collects and eventually connects to other streams that make up the Humber River and flow into Lake Ontario. The properties proposed would be built right over these areas, and would not only disrupt this flow but the effluent that inhabitants of these house would generate would also end up polluting the ground water. The hilly contours of this land mean that much of it would have to be stripped of its top soil and leveled so that stable building sites are created. This wholesale stripping of any hummus and soil build-up that is part of a healthy rural environment would severely affect the future health and growth of any trees and other ground covers that exist and are planted here, both as part of the reforestation plans and the ongoing health of existing trees.

The same concerns apply to the Mount Hope development which is between two areas of wellhead protection as defined in the Source Protection Assessment Report. The extremely intense development of this property will negatively impact the groundwater percolation process, necessary for all lands in the watershed area.

I would also like to address the contents of the arborist report where a tree inventory and protection plan for Mount Pleasant Road have been attached. The severe regrading that will be required to develop this property will completely change the living conditions for all of the trees. The fact remains that altered land drainage patterns will negatively affect the growing conditions and survival prospect for all of these trees, and especially the native species that still remain. The compression of soils that will be done over the entirety of the building envelope will make it almost impossible for any new vegetation areas to successfully grow to maturity. No consideration is being given to the fact that trees need other trees, of mixed ages and varieties, and plant matter and undisturbed soil to grow and thrive. This natural process will never happen in the context of the proposed development. Therefore, this development is not at all in line with the objectives of the Oak Ridges Moraine designations that were put in place.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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