

Dear Mayor McGarry,

My name is Susan Fink, and I am writing to you on behalf of the residents of Shaw Ave East and Henry Villa Drive. I currently reside at 27 Shaw Ave East, but ironically I was born and raised at 27 Shaw Ave West. I even sold girl guide cookies to Mr. Forbes himself! My husband and I (Chad Johnson) also own property at 19 Shaw Ave East. Living here almost my entire life, I am obviously quite distraught at what is about to happen to our quaint little neighbourhood as the Forbes development becomes a reality.

Several residents, including my husband and I, were part of the community group working together with Polocorp to attempt to make the development more compatible with the existing neighbourhood. There have been many positive changes from that working group, and I am happy to see that the 12 storey apartment building is no longer part of the design. I am however disheartened to see that our recommendation of NOT linking Hill Head Street to Shaw Ave has not occurred.

We originally proposed 2 alternatives: a different traffic flow (i.e. looping the road around like a cul-de-sac with 2 exits onto Guelph Ave), or an emergency gated access between Shaw Ave and Hill Head Street. Considering Hill Head Street is actually a condominium road, one access into the Forbes development should be sufficient.

We also feel that putting a gated access at the intersection of Shaw and Hill Head would be more inline with the official plan. The official plan states that intensification should be minor in nature, and be compatible with the existing neighbourhood. Our opinion is that doubling the traffic flow into our neighbourhood is not minor.

In the past, city council has had a positive record of protecting existing neighbourhoods by using an emergency gated entrance. We ask for this to happen again. There is an emergency gate a block away from us that protected the residents on Milton Avenue from the Mattamy subdivision. There are also many other examples of this throughout the city of Cambridge.

As a neighbourhood, we are concerned about the increase in traffic that this would bring to our quiet streets and the safety impacts of this (potentially another 181 extra cars, if everyone has 2 cars, and half of them divert to Shaw Ave). There is also concern of what a large court at the end of Shaw Ave would do to the Mill Pond wildlife, and the affect this would have on the trails. There are also no sidewalks at the end of Shaw Ave to allow people to get to the trail system safely with such an increase in traffic.

I'm sure you are aware that the Forbes development is coming before council this Tuesday July 13th at 5 pm. The residents of Shaw Avenue and Henry Villa Drive would appreciate your support on this issue. We would ask that you strongly consider having a gated emergency entrance separating the Forbes Development from the current neighbourhood on Shaw Ave East and Henry Villa Drive.

Sincerely,

Susan Fink, Chad Johnson, and the concerned residents of Shaw Avenue East and Henry Villa Drive