SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OCTOBER 15, 2001

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT APPLICATION ZONING AMENDMENT APPLICATION ROBERT FREDERICK GOOD ET AL REPORT#P.2001.36

FILES: OP.01.008 & Z.01.020

OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT APPLICATION ZONING AMENDMENT APPLICATION PINEGROVE ON HUMBER

REPORT# P.2001.17

FILES: OP.00.025 & Z.00.111
OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT APPLICATION
ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT APPLICATION
LANADA INVESTMENTS

REPORT# P. 2000.103

FILES: OP.00.020 & Z.00.094

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Planning recommends:

THAT the Committee of the Whole direct Staff to conduct a comprehensive land use study for the Islington Avenue corridor between Langstaff Road and Woodbridge Avenue in accordance with the Terms of Reference outlined on Attachment #5;

THAT the 2002 Capital Budget include the necessary funds to retain consultants to carry out this comprehensive land use study;

THAT Official Plan Amendment Applications OP. 01. 008, OP. 00.025 and OP.00.020 and Zoning Amendment Applications Z.01.020, Z.00.111 and Z.00.094 (Robert Frederick Good et al, Pinegrove on Humber and Lanada Investments Ltd., respectively) BE HELD IN ABEYANCE until the completion of the land use study for the Islington Avenue corridor.

Purpose

To consider undertaking a land use study to evaluate land use alternatives along a portion of Islington Avenue by reviewing Official Plan policies and determining appropriate development guidelines which will become the basis for evaluating and guiding future development within the study area.

Background - Analysis and Options

In late 2000 and early 2001, these similar applications to amend the Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw within the Islington Avenue Corridor ("the corridor") between Langstaff Road and Woodbridge Avenue, were submitted to the City. Each application proposed to redesignate a site to "High Density Residential" to permit condominium apartment buildings, as follows:

- (i) Robert Frederick Good et al (March 14, 2001): 5-storey, 150-unit condominium building with underground parking, at the northeast corner of Islington Avenue and Willis Road (8229, 8243 and 8253 Islington Avenue);
- (ii) Pinegrove On Humber (December 13, 2000) 3½-storey, 60-unit condominium building

with 78 parking spaces (56 spaces underground), on the south side of Pine Grove Road, east of Islington Avenue (255 Pine Grove Road); and

(iii) Lanada Investments Ltd. (October 18, 2000) 4-storey, 64-unit seniors condominium building with two storeys of underground parking, on the west side of Islington Avenue, south of Gamble Street (8334 Islington Avenue).

Each application has been received by Council at the statutory Public Hearing required under the <u>Planning Act</u>. At the respective Public Hearings, a number of residents expressed concerns related to excess traffic, density, height of the projects and the desire to preserve the character of the community. Since the Public Hearings, the Pinegrove Community has continued involvement with the planning process for these applications through liaison with City Councilors, staff.

Ontario Municipal Board

On September 27, 2001 the applicants, Lanada Investments Ltd. (OP. 00.020 and Z.00.094) appealed their application to the Ontario Municipal Board on the basis that Council failed to make a decision within the required time period as provided by the <u>Planning Act.</u>

The Islington Avenue Corridor is characterized by low-density residential development. Several institutional uses are also located within the immediate area such as churches and private schools. In the Pine Grove community between Langstaff Road and north of Woodbridge Avenue the main built form tend to comprise of older type homes, some of historical significance on larger lots oriented toward Islington Avenue, many of which are in a state of deterioration, while others have been developed and improved with newer homes. The Humber River floodplain meanders north and south along the corridor and provides a significant physical characteristic for the area. The Metro Toronto Board of Trade Golf Course is located on the western border of the area and provides another physical characteristic to area.

Official Plan (Woodbridge Community Plan)

The three sites are designated "Low Density Residential" by OPA #240, (Woodbridge Community Plan) and are subject to the residential policies of the plan. In addition, the site at the northeast corner of Islington Avenue and Willis Road falls within the "Special Policy Area" defined by OPA #440 and are also subject to the Special Policy Area (SPA) policies. The sites are mostly zoned R2 and R3 Residential Zones, with lands at the northeast corner of Willis Road and Islington Avenue zoned OS1 Open Space Conservation Zone.

A overall objective of OPA #240 is to create a distinct residential community of scale and character, which relate well to the existing village quality of Woodbridge, and possess a strong sense of community identity. A land use goal is to arrange the social, physical and economic facilities and services necessary for the proper functioning of the community in such a way as to provide optimum convenience, efficiency, safety, and attractiveness to the present and future population.

With respect to parks and open spaces, OPA #240 provides for the development of an integrated system of open space comprising of parks, pedestrian and bicycle paths, flood and valley lands and major woodland area to serve as recreational needs of the community. Furthermore, it is the intent of the official plan to implement the Ontario Regulation restricting building and the placement of fill in flood plains without the approval or administration of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA).

OPA #240 recommends that future development be assessed in a comprehensive manner, reviewed on a five year basis and that piecemeal expansion of the Woodbridge Community not be considered.

Special Policy Area (SPA)

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) sets out, overall policy directions on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development. The PPS typically restricts development of lands adjacent to river and stream systems, which are impacted by flooding and/or erosion hazard, with the exception of those situations identified as an approved Special Policy Area (SPA).

An SPA is defined as an area within a community that has historically existed in the flood plain and where site specific policies, approved by the Ministries of Natural Resources (MNR) and Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMA), can address the significant social and economic hardships to the community that would result from strict adherence to provincial policies concerning development.

Section 6, <u>Special Policy Area</u> of OPA #440 recognizes the lands at the northeast corner of Willis Road and Islington Avenue, as being within an SPA. This SPA designation provides opportunity for redevelopment within the flood plain, provided certain criteria are satisfied, that a permit in accordance with Ontario Regulation 158 is obtained prior to any construction, and that the TRCA determine the regulatory floodline. The deletion or review of the entire Special Policy Area designation would require involvement from a number of agencies, including the TRCA, MNR, MMA, the municipality, landowners and area residents.

York Regional Official Plan (YROP)

The York Regional Official Plan (YROP) includes policies providing for a framework for coordinated planning with adjacent municipalities, as well as with other jurisdictions in the GTA, and prescribes an overall growth and development in the Region of York.

The YROP identifies Vaughan and specifically the subject lands as an urban area served by major transportation regional and urban corridors and future transit systems. Specifically Islington Avenue is an urban corridor, along which new development and employment growth at densities that would make transit service possible, is encouraged. The appropriate level of density and housing will depend on site specific circumstances and the nature of development along the adjacent corridors.

The main objective of the YROP is "to identify corridors as mixed-use transit spines that link urban and regional centres". The policies encourage a mix of housing and employment uses along these corridors, and for municipalities to examine mixed or higher density development along these regional and urban corridors in a comprehensive manner.

Islington Avenue Corridor Study (1990)

In 1990 the City completed out a land use review for the Islington Avenue Corridor, for lands along Islington Avenue, extending from Highway #407 corridor to Rutherford Road. The study provided goals and objectives for the Islington Avenue Corridor as follows:

- maintenance and enhancement of the overall low density residential character;
- protection of mature landscape features and the natural environment, especially as it relates to the Humber River and its valley;
- ensure that future development is compatible with the surrounding residential community and a scale and intensity that is consistent with the predominant low density neighbourhood; and
- provide for redevelopment of appropriate sites, which contributes to the overall character of the area and serves a function to the surrounding residential area.

The study supported primarily low density residential land use along Islington Avenue, but recognized the intersections at Willis Road/Davidson Drive and at Gamble Street/Pine Grove Road, as potential redevelopment and intensification sites, provided that the future developments reflect the existing character of the area.

The 1990 Islington Avenue Study provided guidelines for development within the corridor and also established an inventory of commercial uses and buildings of historic and architectural importance. The Islington Avenue Study was received by Council but was not implemented though an amendment to the Official Plan.

Comprehensive - Land Use Review

The recent applications submitted to the City requesting to amend the Official Plan and Zoning By-law to permit higher density residential development combined with increase in public enquiries for similar type development along Islington Avenue suggest that this area may be in transition. In consideration of this, a comprehensive review of the area would be the appropriate medium to establish land uses for the area.

In considering both the Regional Official Plan and the City's OPA #240 it makes sense that processing the subject applications and any future applications on a comprehensive manner would be the appropriate method in determining the best land use for the area. A comprehensive review would properly address the cumulative impact of the subject applications and future applications for the area, by reviewing among other things, issues such as traffic, density, future road improvements, present character of the area, built form, and the natural and physical area characteristic. The review would include both city staff and community involvement in order to establish goals and objectives for the defined area of study so that future development maintains a quality that compliments the existing community. The attached Terms of Reference provides a brief scope of work outlining the major components of the Islington Avenue Land Use Study.

Conclusion

Both OPA #240, and the York Region Official Plan encourage new development and future growth to proceed in a manner that is comprehensive in nature. Islington Avenue is identified as an Urban Corridor which has potential for new residential and employment growth at densities that would make frequent transit service possible. The recent applications and continual enquiries for similar type of development within the immediate area tend to suggest that this area may be in transition. Therefore, it would be appropriate to proceed in a comprehensive manner to determine the appropriate land use, density and built form for the corridor area. An area wide study would allow the issues identified by the community at the respective public hearings to be addressed and evaluated in a cumulative manner. The process would involve input from the municipality, interested agencies and the landowners in the community so that goals and objectives could be established as the basis for review of future development proposals in the area.

Staff support a comprehensive review of the Islington Avenue Corridor as described in the Terms of Reference and should Council concur, the recommendation of this report can be adopted.

Attachments

- Location Map
- 2. Pinegrove on Humber Proposal
- 3. Robert Frederick Good et al Proposal
- 4. Lanada Investment Ltd. Proposal

5. Terms of Reference - Islington Avenue Land Use Study

Report prepared by:

Eugene Fera, Planner, ext. 8064 Art Tikiryan, Senior Planner, Development Planning, ext. 8212 Bianca M.V. Bielski, Manager, Development Planning, ext. 8485

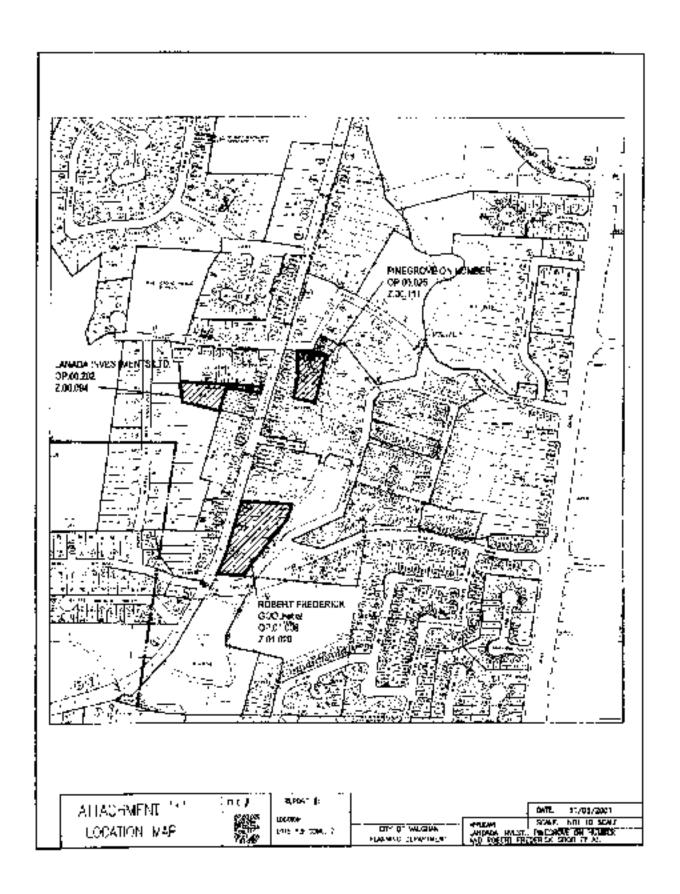
Respectfully submitted,

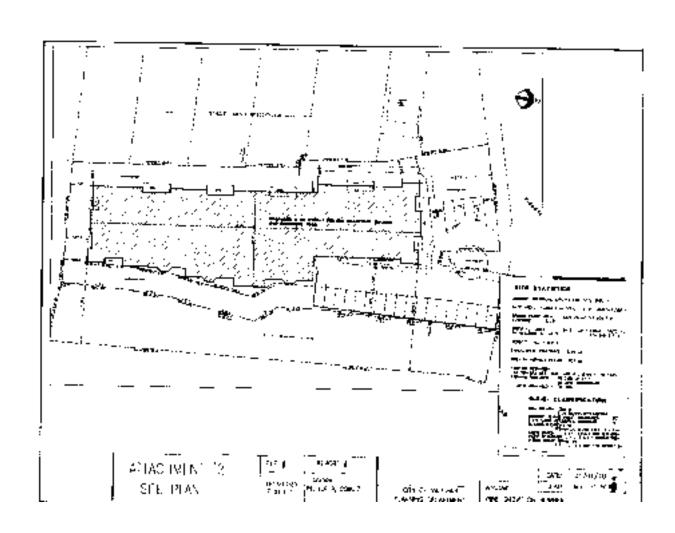
MICHAEL DeANGELIS
Commissioner of Planning & Urban Design

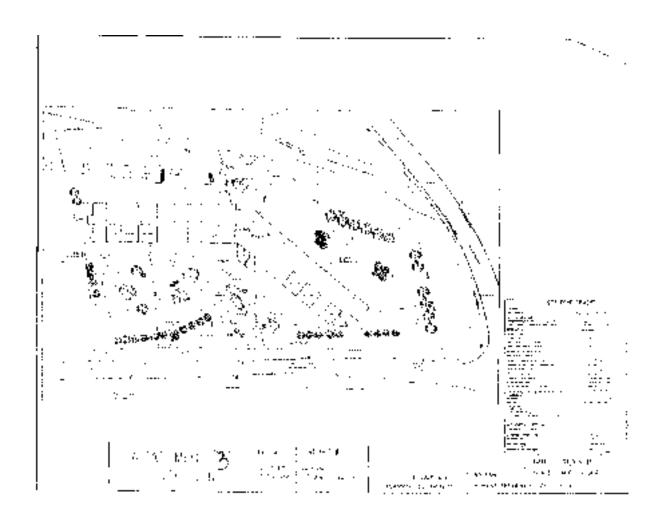
JOANNE R. ARBOUR Director of Community Planning

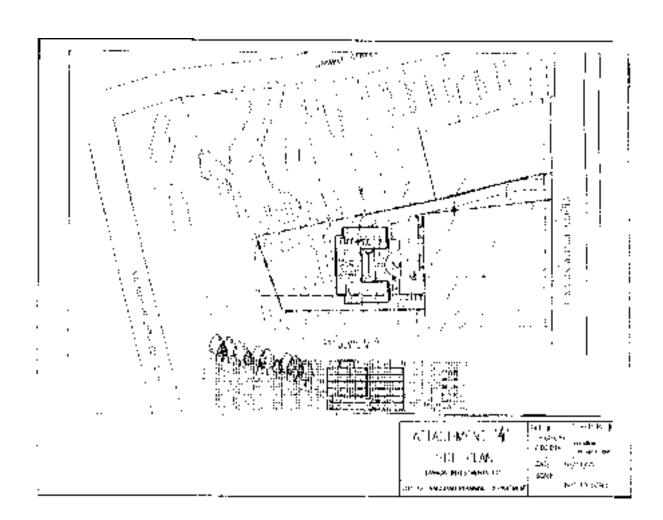
/CM

O:\Directory Structure\2001\Draft\Holdcw\Spcw1015\Item 1 - islingtonstudy-ATTACH.doc











ATTACHMENT NO. 3

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

ISLINGTON AVENUE LAND USE STUDY-(FROM WOODBRIDGE AVENUE TO LANGSTAFF ROAD) PART OF LOTS 7 TO U. CONCESSION 7 CITY OF VAUGILAN

Origin of Study

The City of Vanglan has received a number of development applications within the Islangton Avenue zero. Most recently, on May 7, 2001, the Committee of the Whole (Public Hexing) Report No. 39, then 2, concerning the Robert Fuedenck Good Et A. Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-New Amendment applications (Piles OPACLOCS and ZOU 900), considered a development for a 5 storey, 150 and residential condominium by long at the masters; corner of Willis Road and Philipton Avenue. In response to this suddisher recent development epphasizons for high consity reviewing planning policies, goals and objectives for the area.

1. Purpose of Study

The purpose of the Islangton Avenue Land Lise Study is to examine existing and appropriate future land uses for lands with Boutage on the west and east sides of Islangton Avenue, to the branch of the Burnbor Ravet and Open Space consider to the cast, located but well. Woodburdge Avenue on the south and Langetoff Road on the north (see Abachment 5... the Study Avenue.)

Focus and Scope of the Study

The main focus of the Land Use Study as to comprehensively define appropriate land date within the Study Area of the Land Use Study will consider the appropriatoriess of father development within the Study Area considering the existing law density character of the area and the existing rather of the considering the existing law density character of the area and the existing rather of the considering planting components. But Will be considered are, found use comparisons, the properties of impacts, environmental impacts, community respects; and arban design properties. In order to complete this Land Use Study, a number of land use afternatives will be developed for the Study Area and evaluated by carefully considering all of the above key planting components.

In April, 1990, a droft document for crisicistical being, the Islington Avenue Country Study was completed for the area from small of Highway No. 7 to Rull, of oil Road by the City of Vaugnan. The results of the 1990 Study will be reviewed and considered to the current Study.

Major Components of the falington Avenue Land Use Study

a)	Buckground Sociew;	the review of previous and current development; applications and previous planning work (i.e. 1900 Studyk existing Regional and City of Vaughar Official Plan Policies and suming previous.
Fi	Issue (Centification), Review and Analysis	fluc assessment of existing conditions and releving planning consultrations, including back and less the downership, community structure, heritage, on intermedial, traffic and services.
e)	Propagation of Land Use Alternatives.	descriptions of a number of lend use options for the Study Area methology status auto.
di	Technical Input Aron Departments and Agenetics:	teclarical review of the land use afternatives. Purpugh consultation and circulation journmenting porties.
el	Develor Evaluation Contents:	based on Officeal Film policies and the analysis of all, the issues indepartied in the study process, planning objectives and considerations will be defined to provide the box - for evaluating each land use opposit.
Ŋ	evaluate the Limit Use Alternatives:	the ranking of the land use alternatives based in the evaluation criteria. $\label{eq:constraint} % \begin{center} cen$
)BI	Propries Development and Design Principles to the Recommended Drop Use Affentstivers).	a set of sevelopment and design or notples to guide future development will be prepared to facilitate supplementation of one or more recommended alternatives considering land use compatibility anythmetical and transportation impacts.
ы	Emalize Study for further consideration of Council	the preparation of a suff report on the completed Limb. Use Study for the consumation of Council and, if necessary, the scheduling of a Public Rearing to learning an Orthopal Plan Amendment and all or part of the Study Aren.

5. Public Consultation

Public participation is important to the success of this profess. A minimum of two Public Open Houses will be scheduled to provide the apportunity for the public to be informed at an early stage, about the work of progress, and to provide input on the firm used terminates that will be presented for discussion, prior to their exquiring. The public will also have the opportunity for further input to be processed a format public hearing. The public will also have the opportunity for further input to be processed a format public hearing.

6. Resources

The studied will be corned out under the supervision of a project immagazine particle to the Massacci of Crowth Management & Special Studies, the Doubtor of Community Planning and the Commissioner of Planning. It is recommended that consultants be retained in the following break: Land Use Planning and Urban Design. Transportation, and Earl comments: Textured input from both internst, e.g., Vaughan Engineering, Vaughan Urban Design & Howncomments and extend departments and agencies up g. Region of York. The Toronto and Region Causerwation Authority) will be sought at appropriate times throughout the analytical This represents a new project, not uncluded in Vaughan's 2001 Caustal Bacago.

Timine

The study is anticipated to take suproximately 4 to 5 months from the retaining of the consudant result by the City of Vanglan. Once the Study is completed it is expected to proceed discotly to a Vanglant Controller at the Whole meeting 6 a factors discotlon.

Manach searceter of 1992.

