

# HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

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Professor Meric S. Gertler,  
President, University of Toronto,  
27 King's College Circle,  
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Dear President Gertler:

July 21, 2017.

HVRA appreciates the cordial and focused meeting the neighbourhood associations - Annex Residents' Association, Grange Community Association, Harbord Village Residents' Association and Huron Sussex Residents Organization - had with you yesterday. We trust that this may lead to ideas around a more collaborative approach to University-Community relations, with particular reference to planning issues.

No conclusions were reached at this meeting, but it seemed you gave an undertaking that we both work together to see whether we might find an improved way of handling these.

HVRA was unable to discuss the specifics of the residence at Sussex and Spadina because it now finds itself in litigation with the University which has launched CRB heritage and OMB planning appeals. We did discuss the University's secondary plan rezoning application and identified a number of already defined areas of concern:

- the prevalence of non-specific heights
- densities
- two particularly complicated sites (Music/ROM, Huron spine)
- preservation of and respect for Philosopher's Walk boundaries
- the sheer volume of proposed change, including the Southwest campus (Classic, Willcocks/Spadina), but also the northern sector.

The University was pointed to three different and successful examples of City/Councillor/community collaboration with an institution (AGO) and a private developer (Westbank Mirvish Village) and Mirvish/Gehry. These models should be considered for advancing more University/neighbourhood/City sensitive planning. Grange suggested 'hot spots' might become the subject of a targeted neighbourhood consultative process.

The consensus was the Liaison Committee plays an important role in providing both the Community and the University with information, but it is now challenged by the degree and intensity of planning issues both within the St. George campus and where the University has acquired land immediately flanking neighbourhoods.

Other items:

The parking ramp at UTS has disturbing implications for traffic circulation on Huron, which is already well-travelled and for the parkette to the south of UTS. The projected number of new parking spots under Site 1 is a further concern for traffic congestion in Huron-Sussex.

The issues raised by HVRA around increased hardscaping with the tower infills signaled in the Secondary Plan were echoed by HSRO, and contribute to informing HSRO's efforts around maintaining and expanding campus agriculture. HSRO has been engaged in creating and expanding its own community garden, as well as consulting with the City, HVRA, and a number of University faculty and staff. HSRO is partnering with two courses that offer student placements and seeks more University support for this project.

Annex Residents' Association requested the University strongly support a forthcoming City initiative to impose standards and enforcement on Frats and Sororities, since there have been incidents of sexual assault in frat houses north of the campus.

Although we did not have a chance to discuss this, we are also keen to see the baseline data or variables that are being monitored for the evaluation of the back campus.

Once again, we appreciate the opportunity for a frank dialogue with you.

Respectfully,

Sue Dexter and Carolee Orme  
Board,  
Harbord Village Residents' Association

cc Annex Residents Association, attn. David Harrison  
Grange Community Association, attn. Ceta Ramkhalawansingh, Ralph Daley  
Huron-Sussex Residents' Organization attn. Zoe Newman