

# Toronto Foreshore Protection Group

Preserving Toronto's Public Foreshore Land as Park for a Growing Population

Website: www.tfpg.org.au

#### PART 2 -WHERE HAS THIS LEFT US?

#### RESULTS ...

- Council is treating the protest against the multi-storey building with indifference, if not contempt.
- "Council has resolved to prepare a detailed design of a medium-density, mixed-use commercial and residential building on the Bath St site." (K Fraser)
- Every Councillor has been given a personal copy of the TFPG Submission. No response has been received from any Councillor (other than Cr Harrison) since 29<sup>th</sup> October.

#### WHY THE SECRECY?

- \*Council continues to claim details of the proposal are "commercial in confidence" and refuses to release project details
- •TFPG have sought clarification from the Information Commissioners Office, who have stated that there is no justification for secrecy in this matter

#### COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY CONSULTATION FORESHORE PARK & BATH ST

- During Sept & Oct Council undertook community engagement on its proposed Foreshore Development
- Unfortunately, feedback concerning the Bath St proposal was only sought in relation to the "interface" between the proposed building and the Park itself
- The 6 storey building was a "given" not an "option".

## COUNCIL'S FEEDBACK ON FORESHORE DEVELOPMENT

**CREATING A PLACE FOR** 

# PEOPLE INTORONTO

Full document available on Council's website

PHASE ONE
Community Engagement Summary

#### COUNCIL'S JUSTIFICATION FOR BATH ST BUILDING

- "The concept proposal for the Bath Street site is a medium-density development including a mix of residential, tourist and commercial space. It will be developed with the aim of activating the area, improving pedestrian access and linkages, and creating job opportunities.
- "The proposed development is part of a larger plan to bring people to the Toronto Foreshore. It will create a destination point linked to the main business district and enhance the City's visitor economy by filling a need for waterfront accommodation.

The development will provide a range of opportunities including accommodation, retail and dining experiences, new residential options and employment into the future through the creation of additional business opportunities.

"Council already owns the land and has the expertise to deliver this project cost-effectively for our community, while retaining management of this important waterfront site.
Undertaking projects that provide long-term financial return allows Council to fund other infrastructure, services and facilities for the community.

"The proposed Bath Street development will contribute to economic diversification, broaden our tourism offering, increase housing choice and enhance the vibrancy and character of the precinct."

These "motherhood" statements have not been justified.

They constitute opinion and are not supported by data.

## WAS THERE BIAS IN THE FEEDBACK?

- In general, feedback was comprehensive, HOWEVER . . . The true balance between positive & negative comments was not properly reflected. For example -
- "There were a significant number of respondents that expressed concerns around the proposed development on the Bath Street site due to potential traffic impacts, amenity and the proposed height/bulk of the building.
  - However, there were also respondents that expressed support for the proposed development on Bath Street, indicating it would be a great opportunity for the area."

No mention was made that the number of negative comments

## CAN THIS "DEVELOPMENT" BE STOPPED?

- The TFPG has articulated, documented and publicised
  - Community concerns about this proposal
  - Arguments against the building
  - Points of conflict between the proposal and local and State planning documents
  - through interviews, opinion pieces and press letters
- Numerous letters have been sent to Council
- Lobbying has been extensive, and a formal Submission has been lodged
- The Petition against the proposal carried over 5,200 signatures
- Our last Public Meeting demonstrated the depth of Community concern (above 450 were present)

#### CAN MORE BE DONE?

- TFPG can explore legal options which could lead to a successful court challenge against this proposal
- Independent traffic flow and parking analysis can be undertaken.
   (Adequate provisions on these measures are part of Council's legal obligation)
- Letters to State Govt Ministers (Planning and Local Govt.) can object to Council's actions such as inadequacy of public
   Consultation and inappropriate use of public funds

REMEMBER: The State Govt's Regional Planning Panel will approve, approve with amendments, or reject Council's Application

## WITH REFERENCE TO PARKING

Designated Lakeside off-road parking sites - Speers Point to Eleebana:

- Warners Bay to Eleebana (between The Esplanade and the Lake) 244
- At the Speers Pt end of cycleway (near junction with Cockle Ck) 132
- At Speers Pt Park (including Swimming Pool and Soccer Centre)
   465
- At Booragul (near Rowing Club and Art Gallery) 80
  - Double spaces for car & boat trailer (Eleebana and Cockle Ck)
     32

TOTAL OFF-ROAD DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES

953

Toronto designated Lakeside off-road parking sites -

## HELP BUILD OUR RESOURCES

- Further TFPG action requires funds
  - Legal advice and possible court action
  - Independent parking/traffic studies
  - Architect plans & artist's impressions
  - Publicity and printing costs
  - Media advertising
- Your donations are vital in our campaign. Use the website's "Donate" option
- Volunteer your time (letterbox drops, phone calls)

### WE MUST KEEP UP THE PRESSURE!

- \*Keep writing letters to the Newcastle Herald & Lakes Mail (Helpful suggestions for letter writing are on our website: (tfpg.org.au)
- If you have already written one, WRITE AGAIN!
- Council also needs to be barraged with emails/letters of objection. (addresses on TFPG website)
- \* Ask a question which requires an answer!
- Use social media to spread the message
  - "We want open public waterside parkland in Toronto!



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