



# COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES

Date: Friday, April 28, 2017 Location: Etobicoke Civic Centre, 399 The West Mall

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM Project: 4620 Eglinton Avenue West

Re: 4620 Eglinton Avenue West – Community Executive Group Meeting

## **Attendees**

### Richmond Gardens Ratepayers Residents Association (RGRRA)

John Di Salvo, Rosemary Di Salvo, Emil Frank, Nadia Guarino and Zack Suntres

### Friends of Silver Creek School

Peter Pearson, Tracie Napoli and Karl Egenberger

### Councillor John Campbell's Office

Christine Hogarth

#### **Build Toronto**

Natalie Pastuszak

#### **Brook Pooni Associates (BPA)**

Gary Pooni, Sarah Kanakos, Frannie Heeney and Aliya Tejani

## **Meeting Objective**

The purpose of this meeting was to:

- Formally introduce Brook Pooni Associates as the public engagement consultant for the project
- Provide an overview of Brook Pooni Associates engagement approach and process
- Provide an opportunity for Brook Pooni Associates to gather input into the engagement process

## Main Points Discussed:

- 1. About Build Toronto and introduction to Brook Pooni Associates
- 2. Upcoming May 27 public meeting
- 3. Trinity Group's involvement
- 4. Overall community perspective / closing comments

#### 1. Who are Build Toronto and Brook Pooni Associates?

Build Toronto is a wholly owned subsidiary of the City of Toronto that was set up to create value from the City's underutilized real estate assets. The company is responsible for creating development opportunities and providing a dividend back to the City. To date, the company has sold 19 development projects. The company further supports the City of Toronto through infrastructure projects like the Fort York Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge. Build Toronto reports to an 11-member Board of Directors comprising eight public members and three City of Toronto Councillors.

Brook Pooni Associates is an Urban Planning consulting firm that specializes in community consultation. BPA was hired by Build Toronto in 2017 through an RFP process to support the community engagement process for the 4260 Eglinton project. BPA has offices in Vancouver and Toronto, and has been involved in numerous projects across the GTA, including the Mirvish Village site at Bloor and Bathurst that was recently recognized as one of the cities most successful public engagement initiatives by City Council.

### 2. Public Meeting Details:

A public meeting is being planned for Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. This event will provide the community with an opportunity to meet the development team, offer insight into the neighbourhood and learn about the development objectives. Engagement is one of Build Toronto's City-Building Strategic Priorities. As part of any development application, the company works to engage with community members over and above the City of Toronto's statutory community consultation process. Build Toronto makes it a priority to listen, be open to input and remain responsive. Community members are one of the various stakeholders that Build Toronto must engage. There will be opportunities throughout the process for community members to provide input, officially starting with this executive meeting and the public meeting on May 27. The public meeting will be a family friendly event.

An official invitation has not yet been sent out, but mention of the meeting was included in the Councillor's April Newsletter. It is of importance to communicate the May 27 meeting. Build Toronto and BPA will be mailing out an invitation to the community members, ensuing the surrounding apartment and condominium buildings are also included. It was discussed that a digital flyer would be sent to the RGRRA and Friends of Silver Creek School to help distribute through their channels and to their members. A recommendation to include a backgrounder in the mail out was provided so that the community members could learn more about Build Toronto and Trinity Group. BPA also introduced the approach of door-knocking throughout the process to further engage with community members.

## What is Trinity Development Group's Involvement:

Currently, Build Toronto is not in a formal agreement with Trinity Group (the owner of the adjacent Richview Plaza), however, they are in discussions regarding a potential partnership. The community members requested clarity about this pending agreement, and Build Toronto will keep the community updated as a potential partnership progresses.

## 4. What is the role of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB):

Build Toronto confirmed that given their association with the City of Toronto, as their arms-length real estate corporation, they do not take their projects to the OMB. Build Toronto has legal mechanisms in place to prevent partners from going to the OMB.

## 5. Overall Community Perspective / Closing Comments:

The community has an interest in seeing the vision for this section of Eglinton Avenue West and in learning about the engagement process. The community also has an interest in learning about the design and transportation planning in the area.

Build Toronto and BPA, will continue to learn more about the community interests and communicate throughout the process.