

Legislation Text

File #: 19-A-113, **Version:** 1

DEPUTATION REQUEST BY CATHY COLEBATCH CONCERNING MOTION 19-G-275 CITY INITIATED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENTS FOR ESSA ROAD CORRIDOR (WARD 7 AND 8)

Cathy Colebatch provided a Deputation in opposition to motion 19-G-275, City Initiated Zoning By-law Amendments for the Essa Road Corridor.

Ms. Colebatch advised that she is a long-time century homeowner, the Co-chair of the Allandale Neighbourhood Association and a volunteer member of the Heritage Barrie Committee. She discussed her opposition to section three of motion 19-G-275 that addresses the rezoning on Cumberland Street. She advised that on behalf of the community, they are generally in agreement with the need to improve the look of Essa Road and Bradford Street Corridor, in keeping with the various *Planning Act* policies, the City's Official Plan and the need to intensify the City. Ms. Colebatch noted that in her opinion these improvements do not need to occur on Cumberland Street, as it a residential and historic street in Barrie.

Ms. Colebatch discussed the public's input gathered from various workshops, stakeholders meetings and online surveys, she advised that in early May, a month before the June Public Meeting residents learned about the City's potential initiatives for rezoning on Cumberland Street. Ms. Colebatch commented that at no time was Cumberland Street discussed on any of the surveys. Ms. Colebatch discussed the current zoning on Cumberland Street and the potential impacts if commercial uses are approved. Ms. Colebatch stated that these homes are important to the character, culture and charm and stood for more than 100 years and majority are still in good shape. She discussed the revitalization of the century old homes, including the addition of second suites. Ms. Colebatch further expressed the importance and historical value of the homes, noting that they tell a story about the Allandale neighbourhood, and she noted that this area has the largest number of properties on the Heritage Registry.

Ms. Colebatch questioned the proposed road widening on Essa Road, and wondered if it may be a catalyst for rezoning Cumberland Street to provide more frontage on Essa Road. She further questioned the expansion taking away viable space and asked why we are widening the road between Burton Avenue and Gowan Street if the City is working towards a more walkable, ridable and public transit communities. Ms. Colebatch expressed her hope that once the redevelopment begins on Essa Road and Gowan Street that staff can work with the developer(s) to work within the confines of the current lot frontage and depth of the properties and create a community we can all be proud of. Ms. Colebatch asked that members of Council not approve any rezoning on Cumberland Street.