

The Old Ottawa East Community Association has been involved with the developing design for the Greystone Village neighbourhood since before the first pre consultation with the City on the potential for the former Oblates lands. As a result there is a significant degree of understanding and familiarity with the plan, and little new conversation regarding comments specifically for the proposed plan of subdivision. My comments below are submitted to maintain the presence of the Community Association in the file and should not be seen as final or exclusive.

In general, the Old Ottawa East Community Association (OOECA) supports the direction proposed by the Regional Group for the 175 Main Street property. We support the use of narrow street rights of way, rear parking access for residents, and street parking for visitors as a means to encourage an appropriate pedestrian environment. We support the use of the "window road" and "woonerf" pedestrian concept for that space as a means to ensure the linear park along the Rideau River is understood as a public place for all. We support the distribution of building mass across the site as proposed. Finally, we are comfortable with the urban nature of the proposals for public park space in the form of the forecourt to the Deschatelets residence and the Grand Allée. We believe it is important that the land uses around those spaces accommodate activities that would keep the public spaces animated with people from all walks of life.

OOECA recognizes the magnitude of change that will occur over time at the property and is in agreement with concepts such as maintenance of the Grande Allée as a tree-lined public way from Main Street to the Deschatelets Residence, understanding that this does not mean all of the existing trees will remain. Similarly we recognize and accept that the trees on Clegg Street will be removed in the course of remediation of the soil in that area. We look forward to the proposals from the Regional Group for replacing the street trees along Clegg as part of the landscaping for the houses proposed on that site.

We have heard from the community garden organizers and supporters that there is concern over the size of buildings adjacent to the gardens at St. Paul University. We see the location of the taller buildings in that space as appropriate, and an acceptable trade-off for the lower profile of buildings on the balance of the site. While we recognize that change will inconvenience the community gardens, we believe that there are other opportunities for good gardening locations on the Greystone Village site and at other locations on the St. Paul property.

For the density of development proposed, OOECA is pleased to see the development approach chosen, and looks forward to the increased opportunities for commercial and other services that will come of the full development of the property. We commend the Regional Group for their willingness to engage with the community and responsiveness to questions and concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Best Regards,  
SFP

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