

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Clerks](#)
Subject: File #PLN-OPZS-2024-008 17255 Yonge Street
Date: September 5, 2024 10:08:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside of the Town of Newmarket. **DO NOT** click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and trusted content.

Dear Clerk:

Regarding the rezoning application for 17255 Yonge Street in Newmarket, I am opposed to this rezoning request.

From the documents I read, I believe that the proposed use is not a Mental Health Facility where persons with mental health issues can receive actual treatment to remediate their mental health conditions.

This is primarily going to be an emergency treatment centre for people experiencing drug overdoses. There will be 20 beds for crisis, i.e. drug overdose recovery, and 10 beds for drug withdrawal management.

From the information published, the true mental health counselling aspects will be minimal and consist only of addictions support.

This type of facility does not belong so close to a neighbourhood with children and families, with parks and schools and daycares nearby. There are a lot of other places in Newmarket more suited to this type of facility, including keeping it near the hospital to take advantage of skilled emergency room people, or if it must be separate, there is lots of room at the under-utilized York Region administration offices which does not butt right up against homeowners backyards.

Can you please address the following concerns at the town meeting on Monday September 9:

- Safety of neighbourhood residents –
 - o when people are saved and released, how do you ensure those who don't live in the neighbourhood actually leave; there are already homeless people in the green spaces behind our homes having fights and dumping garbage – how will you prevent more homeless people setting up in the neighbourhood
 - o most of us have no fences or low fences that will not prevent unwelcome people from getting into our backyards – will you provide us higher or more secure fencing at no cost for those who want it?
 - o how will you police the area to ensure no increase in drug activity etc
 - o who will ensure that no drugs and drug paraphernalia are left around for our kids to find on the streets and in the parks

- Noise – ambulances will be arriving at this facility presumably at all hours of the day and night –

disruption to sleep in the neighbourhood – we already hear the sirens from the fire department even though it is a kilometer away. How will you prevent noise disruption when this facility is in our backyards? Will it be a siren-free zone?

- Increased traffic on neighbourhood streets – the location has a very tight parking area and driving area – ambulances and car traffic will spill onto the neighbourhood streets making it more congested and less safe.
- Have you done studies on the impact to our property values? If yes, please give us the results of these studies. Neighbourhood residents are aware of other cities and towns where mental health facilities for drug addiction opened and afterwards property values decreased, businesses closed, homes could not be sold and are boarded up. How will you protect our home values? Many residents are approaching retirement age and count on home values to offset the increased cost of living we are seeing these days.
- Have you done studies on the impact to our property and car insurance costs? If yes, please publish the results of these studies. If there is a potential for higher crime in our neighbourhood with break-ins or thefts or property damage, our insurance costs will increase. How will you prevent this?

In summary, I don't think this type of facility belongs so close to our residential neighbourhood and I oppose the rezoning to allow it. There are other locations that would be more suitable. This will significantly reduce the safety and desirability of our neighbourhood and have material costs to the homeowners.

Darlene Gardner
Rob Rosendale

