

To Council and Madame Mayor

I would like to express my concerns regarding 130 King proposal by the Georgian Bay Racquets Initiative to create a year-round racquet sport facility at this location.

Aside from placing it in a residential zoned area, the initiative has been ongoing for some time and appeared to gather input from all racquets' users to (not just tennis) to create an appearance of local interest. As a resident of the area, I am of the opinion that this is not the case. There is some usage of the existing tennis courts by Cameron shores club which can be heard by the neighbouring properties but is not frequently used. A performance tennis facility would promote higher traffic into the area along with demand more area for parking, increased noise both from proposed bubble structure and continuous usage of facilities. The intent of the initiative to create a year-round tennis, pickleball, squash and other racquet sports implies both plenty of land and buildings which may require additions to the proposal a should it evolve.

This area is lacking in public parklands. No spaces exist between 10th line and Peel Street North. Over the past years there has been an increase in the number of residents in the area, with many walking to the water treatment plant parking lot and back. While it is on the waterfront it is hardly a park. A community space in the area along with the planned improvements to Peel Street, pedestrian bridge over the Little Beaver River and multi use trail would at least provide a destination while maintaining tree canopies for both people and wildlife. As this is the last remaining undeveloped space in the neighbourhood, please consider this is the last opportunity to add some park to this area of town. A racquet club would only serve a select interest group, the majority of whom do not live in the immediate neighbourhood.

One of the attractions of the Town of Blue Mountains is small community and green space along with many outdoor activities. It would be a shame to continue to lose opportunities to keep TBM as a scenic, attractive place to live.

Regards

Tim Urbshas

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.