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Sent: 2024/12/05 9:50 AM
To: COA <coa@brampton.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Application A-2024-0429

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Letter of Opposition to Proposed Driveway Extension

December 4th 2024

City Planning Commission

Re: Opposition to Driveway Extension Proposal at 4 Alderway Ave

Dear Planning Commission Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed driveway extension at 4 Alderway, located within our cherished school zone neighbourhood. This proposal presents significant environmental and safety concerns that cannot be overlooked.

Environmental Impact: The Historic Beech Tree

The most immediate and alarming aspect of this proposal is the potential irreparable damage to the magnificent beech tree on the property. This tree is not merely a landscape feature, but a living heritage of our neighbourhood. Beech trees are slow-growing, long-lived specimens that provide critical ecological benefits:

- They offer essential habitat for local wildlife

- Their extensive root systems prevent soil erosion
- They contribute to the historic character and natural beauty of our community

The proposed driveway extension would require significant root zone disruption, which could:

- Compromise the tree's structural integrity
- Potentially lead to tree decline or premature death
- Destroy decades of natural growth

School Zone Safety Concerns

Perhaps even more critical are the safety implications of this proposal. Our neighbourhood is a designated school zone, which means increased pedestrian traffic, particularly of children and young students. The proposed extension would:

- Increase the number of vehicles entering and exiting the property
- Reduce visibility at a critical pedestrian crossing point
- Create additional blind spots for both drivers and children

A Constructive Alternative

Rather than proceeding with a driveway extension that poses environmental and safety risks, I propose a sensible alternative: restore the property to its original floor plan by recommissioning the two-car garage.

This approach would:

- Preserve the historic architectural integrity of the home
- Maintain the existing landscaping and the irreplaceable beech tree
- Provide safe, off-street parking without compromising neighbourhood safety
- Respect both the environmental and community standards of our area

Conclusion

The proposed driveway extension is not merely an inconvenience—it represents a significant threat to our neighbourhood's safety, ecological balance, and historical character. I urge the Planning Commission to reject this proposal and encourage the property owners to consider the alternative of garage restoration.

Sincerely,

Darryl Gougeon

Resident of Ridgehill Manor