

# Credit Valley Residents Association



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[www.creditvalleyresidentsassociation.ca](http://www.creditvalleyresidentsassociation.ca)

October 23, 2023

Planning, Building & Growth Management Department  
City of Brampton

Subject: Residents' objections and suggestion on proposed youth shelter

Dear Members of the Planning Team & Council,

The Credit Valley Residents Association supports the City's decision to increase the levels of services being provided to all residents, however, **we strongly oppose the City's and Region's proposed location to build a Youth Shelter at 1358 Queen Street West** (near the intersection of Queen Street West & Creditview Road).

As our elected officials and City Staff, you have two important responsibilities: to keep neighbourhoods safe, stable and secure and to make sure that the most vulnerable populations in the City are supported. We believe the proposed location will not allow for either of those responsibilities to be met.

Instead, we suggest that if there is City owned land in downtown Brampton or near BCC, then those areas should be considered as they will be more appropriate for the following reasons:

1) A youth shelter in downtown Brampton or near BCC will be near crucial public transportation infrastructure (Brampton Transit, Zum and or Go Transit). These areas have the most highly developed transit corridors in the City. The current proposed site of the shelter near Queen Street West & Creditview will be difficult for youth and visitors to access without driving a car. The proposed site is simply not well serviced with extensive public transportation unlike downtown Brampton or the BCC area.

2) The proposed location of 1358 Queen Street West does not have the level of professional services in the area required to run an effective youth shelter. Having nearby doctors and other medical professionals, social workers, youth counsellors and police and legal services is critical to the success of a youth shelter. Failing to locate the shelter nearby such professional services will poorly service the youth and further increase the vehicle traffic near the proposed site. As well, the specialized mental health and addiction services available at the William Osler Health Site (i.e., Peel Memorial at 20 Lynch Street) dictate any proposed youth shelter ought to be located in downtown Brampton.

3) The proposed location of 1358 Queen Street West is adjacent to a private children's daycare and an increase in vehicle traffic in this area due to the proposed shelter will add to the already risky situation that exists with cars turning into and out of the daycare on a daily basis as parents who drop off their young child at the daycare will have to compete with visitors to the shelter arriving via taxi, ride share services or private cars.

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4) In addition, it is very unrealistic to expect that the youth, employees and visitors of the the proposed youth shelter will walk over one kilometre (especially in the winter months) to the intersection of Queen Street West and Chinguacousy Road to access the nearest grocery store (No Frills), pharmacy (Shoppers Drug Mart) or a fast food restaurant.

There is also the issue that the City and Region have been unable to keep the residents living near 3458 Queen Street East (location of the current temporary youth shelter) feeling safe. When speaking to residents living close to that shelter, many complained about the police being called on a daily basis due to various disturbances and criminal activity occurring at this site. Thus, please supply the information to the questions below:

## **Questions:**

1) Can you provide a copy of the staff report, or consultant's report demonstrating which sites have been considered for the purposes of locating a possible youth shelter within Brampton?

2) As well, if unstated in the above mentioned report, can you provide an outline of the criteria that internal staff or a consultant hired by the City used to select the proposed site of 1358 Queen Street West?

3a) Will the proposed shelter require its residents to leave in the morning and come back at night?

3b) If shelter residents will leave during the day, what supports will be in place to discourage residents from loitering in the area?

4) Will there be security cameras installed along the perimeter of the proposed building?

5) Will there be security cameras installed along the sidewalk or street scape portion for the proposed site?

6) Will there be 24/7 security/mobile patrols outside the proposed facility?

7) Will there be a dedicated safety team who is picking up hazards, such as needles and drug paraphernalia as well as monitoring and addressing other inappropriate activity given the presence of young children at the adjacent children's daycare (i.e., Lullaboo Nursery and Childcare Center)?

8a) Will there be professionals at the proposed site to address any potential overdoses and medical emergencies?

8b) If yes, which governmental agency will be providing this safety team at the proposed site?  
Example: Peel Public Health

9) Has consultation occurred to date with Lullaboo Nursery and Childcare Center (located at 1450 Queen Street West, 260 metres from the proposed site of the Shelter)?

9b) If yes, can you please provide a staff report or consultant's report documenting the consultations which have occurred to date with Lullaboo Nursery and Childcare Center?

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10) Will there be a requirement by the City that regular meetings are held with the residents of the proposed youth shelter, reviewing their responsibilities as residents of the shelter?

11) Will there be educational signs posted in the facility and around the neighborhood (close to the proposed site) regarding appropriate conduct in the neighbourhood?

12a) Has the City consulted with Peel Police to determine whether there will be allotment for dedicated Peel Police officers that will monitor the area close to the proposed site?

12b) If yes, please provide a written summary of the commitments given by Peel Police and or relevant governmental agencies.

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To reiterate, for the residents living in this youth shelter, this will not be an appropriate location as it is not central to major transit stations or community infrastructure that would support the residents.

## **1) Queen Street West is a car dependent area.**

- a) Two bus routes service the area: Route 561 Züm Queen West operates only on weekdays and only at peak service times during those weekdays. 1 Queen West operates weekdays and weekends.
- b) The Downtown Brampton major transit station is 4 km from the proposed site.
- c) The Mount Pleasant major transit station is 5.1 km from the proposed site.
- d) The Queen Street BRT is envisioned to potentially service our neighborhood in the future. However, the project is currently in the preliminary design phase, thus there is no guarantee that Queen St West will in fact be serviced by BRT. Even if during the conceptualization phase, Metrolinx identifies that BRT would service our area, the project completion date would be many years away.

## **2) The location is not close to a medical facility.**

- a) The closest Urgent Care Facility that is open 24 hours a day (Peel Memorial located at 20 Lynch Street) is 5 km away from the site.
- b) The closest hospital (Brampton Civic located at 2100 Bovaird Drive East) is 12.8 km away from the site.

## **3) The location is not close to a public post secondary institution.**

- a) The closest public post secondary institution (Sheridan College Davis campus located at 7899 McLaughlin Rd) is 5.9 km away from the site.

## **4) The location is not close to regional or city employment services.**

- a) The closest employment support and resource centre (Peel Region's Brampton Resource Centre located at 10 Peel Centre Drive) is 8.6 km away from the site.

I look forward to your response to my above questions and also hope that you will take into serious consideration the type of supports that are required for residents living within the youth shelter to thrive in the community and for the pro-active strategies/best practices the City and Region should commit to in order to ensure the continued safety of the residents who currently live within the neighborhood where the shelter is being proposed.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,

Delegates of Credit Valley Residents Association