



Glenn De Baeremaeker

City Councillor - Ward 38, Scarborough Centre

a.



March 20, 2009

To the Chair and Members of the Toronto Public Library Board:

Re: Request to support adequate parking supply at new library

First, I want to say thank you on behalf of myself and the 63,000 residents in my ward for building a magnificent new library in our community.

I am thrilled that the Library Board is making this investment in the Scarborough Civic Centre area and am doing everything possible to facilitate a successful new library. I was pleased, for example, to assist Library staff in securing their preferred library location when they were originally told by City staff that no land was available for a library in this area.

This letter is to request that the Library Board approve a motion similar to the one both Scarborough Community Council and Toronto Council passed unanimously in February 2009; which states that City Council:

1. Direct City Facilities and Real Estate staff to work with the Toronto Parking Authority in an attempt to create a parking supply as outlined in Option A (231 spaces) or Option B (332 spaces) of the September 2008 Scarborough Civic Centre Branch Library Conceptual study.
2. Request the Toronto Parking Authority to consider constructing a Toronto Parking Authority parking lot as outlined in the September 2008 Scarborough Civic Centre Branch Library Conceptual study.

The Decision Document for this Scarborough Council Meeting may be found at:

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/sc/decisions/2009-02-09-sc23-dd.pdf>

I am requesting that the Board direct its staff to work with the TPA and City of Toronto to facilitate the provision of a parking supply as outlined in Option A or B of the Library Conceptual study and further that the Board request the TPA to consider constructing a TPA parking lot as outlined in the Conceptual study.

As you may know, the Toronto Public Library does not have any funding for parking within its budget for the new library. The Toronto Parking Authority has co-operated with the City of Toronto and Toronto Public Library staff to provide some parking as part of the library project

and is currently indicating it may build 50 - 80 parking spaces; which is much less than the suggested Parking Option A (231 spaces) or Parking Option B (332 spaces) of the conceptual plan for the new library.

It makes sense to build the new parking lot at the same time as we build the new library in terms of economies of scale and minimal disruption to the surrounding community. Additional parking will not only benefit the library at this location but also our Civic Centre Square which sees thousands upon thousands of people enjoying events such as cultural shows, fashion shows, musical festivals and other celebrations.

If you have any questions or need further information please feel free to contact my office.

Cheers,



Glenn De Baeremaeker.
City of Toronto
Councillor Ward 38

CC: Anne Bailey, Director TPL