

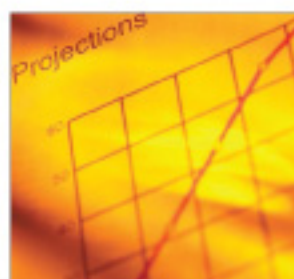
Whitby This Week

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Port proposal doesn't fit: mayor

Application for Port Whitby proposes 49 block townhouses and 178 stacked dwellings

By Melissa Mancini

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WHITBY -- A development proposed for Port Whitby doesn't fit in with the rest of the area's architecture, Mayor Pat Perkins says. The application for the development proposes 49 block townhouses and 178 stacked townhouse dwellings. The original plan in 2005 was for 41 block units and 140 stacked units. The new plan also includes underground parking instead of surface lots that were previously proposed.

Mayor Perkins said the flat roofs on the townhouses and the urban form of the development did not blend with the community built around it.

Louis Bourgon, a resident who spoke to the planning and development committee, echoed concerns about the building design.

"Even the new plaza built in the area made the attempt to blend in with its surroundings," he said.

The development needs a zoning bylaw

amendment to reflect the new site plan, he said.

The land for the development is on the corner of Gordon Street and Whitby Shores Greenaway. When the proposal was discussed in 2005 there were two letters of correspondence from area residents that outlined concerns about building heights and losing the views and character of the area. The height of the buildings range from three to 3 1/2 storeys.

Since then new proposals for land in Port Whitby has included condo buildings of much larger heights -- up to 33 storeys.

The development has been chosen by the Canada Green Building Council in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) homes case study program. Among the plans to make the development greener are less land-fill waste, better air filtration and water efficiency. There are also options for 24 fully accessible units.

Councillor Don Mitchell said the proposal was an A-plus, an excellent development plan. The design issue was really a matter of taste and that the new drawings looked higher quality than the old proposal, he said.

Committee voted to approve the zoning amendment application and site plan application.

The item will be discussed at council next Tuesday.



Councillor Don Mitchell

Have a heart -- jump rope



Walter Passarella / Metroland

WHITBY -- Students at St. Matthews Catholic School held their jump rope for heart event indoors due to the weather, but it didn't deter Diego Sibal (kindergarten) and Danielle Hallam (Grade 8) from buddying up to have a blast.



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