



Enhancing Student Life

29 October 2010

Nancy Knight
Campus & Community Planning

Dear Nancy,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to provide feedback on the definitions for “Primary Village Centre Academic” and “Area Under Review” zoning designations.

The assignment of the University Boulevard area as Primary Village Centre Academic is in line with our Council’s recommendation. The updated definition captures our conclusion with you that affordable year-round housing is crucial for bringing vibrancy to the area, and that members of the University community and their affiliates are most suitable for living there.

One change I would like to ask you to consider is about the location of the welcoming mechanisms at grade in this area. It would make more sense to create welcoming mechanisms at grade that incorporate both the new Student Union Building and Alumni Centre as that is more in line with the vision of the two buildings being the “heart” of the campus. Moreover, instead of the language “mature students”, I would like to suggest “upper year and graduate students” to add more specificity to this definition.

Additionally, I would like to comment that we appreciate your invitation to coordinate shops and services planning for the University Boulevard. We look forward to working with you, the Bookstore and Properties Trust in that process next year.

Designation of Gage South as an Area Under Review makes sense given the on-going assessment of the future of the Aquatic Centre, Transit Systems, Public Realm and Outdoor Bookable Social Space on campus. Similarly to the University Boulevard, the conditions set on the appropriate type of possible neighbourhood housing in Gage South also makes sense if the area ends up having such housing.

I would also like to comment that we look forward to discussing the future zoning of Gage South with you once there is more clarity about the resolution of the issues under assessment.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say that AMS really values the strong relationship that we enjoy with Campus and Community Planning. We appreciate your active engagement with us, as well as your willingness to make changes to the current Land Use Plan in order to incorporate AMS’ feedback on behalf of students. The updated definitions make sense to us. We look forward to having the same productive relationship with you in the future.

Regards,

Bijan Ahmadian
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