Submitted: Wed, 03/04/2026 - 11:58

Delegation information

Committee you want to address
Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development

Agenda item you want to address (number and title)
10. Conversion of the Former Aubrey Bus Loop to Community Park Space and Urban Dog Par

Support or oppose recommendations
I am opposed to the recommendations

Submit comments in writing checkbox
Submit comments in writing

Comments
As a longtime Wolseley resident, I am hopeful that the city can delay any permanent changes to the Aubrey bus loop pending a public consultation regarding its long term use. Wolseley is a densely developed urban neighbourhood with few green spaces or opportunities to build new and necessary infrastructure. The lot at Aubrey represents a meaningful chance for the community to lead a development that will support the community as it grows over the next decades .

There has been a significant daycare deficit in the vicinity of Ecole Laura Secord School for decades. For generations, the story of raising a student that attends this school has included a chapter on the impossibility of daycare. The on-site daycares (YWCA and Laura Secord Community Daycare run at RA Steen) serve a fraction of the local families seeking care for their children before, after, and during the school day. Wait lists are years-long, and as home daycares close due to retirement and community change, they are not being replaced; who can afford to pay the mortgage on a $400K property with the proceeds of a daycare? Families have long been innovating - sharing care between families, reducing their hours of paid employment to cover childcare, and taking time off from work on a daily basis to transport their children from school to daycare facilities (and in some cases, back again). This has been the case since before my eldest, (now 18) was a student at ELSS, and it remains so today.

This space at Aubrey, with its proximity to a playground and Laura Secord School, is perfectly positioned for a daycare. I have been working with a small consortium of residents to determine if we can develop a feasible plan to build a daycare/seniors housing on this lot, pending its

availability. As with any new project, there are many questions about how this might come to pass, questions we have only begun to answer. However, I would suggest that we should absolutely be given the opportunity to answer them - to determine if this is a viable project, and then to work with community to decide if this is the sort of project we, as a community, would like to see on this land.

For decades, parents in this community have not had access to local, affordable child care. While it's easy to point a jurisdictional finger and suggest that this should be the responsibility of another level of government, NOTHING can happen without an appropriate physical space - which in a mature community like ours, is hard to come by. On behalf of the parents who have had to pick up their youngest children at lunch daily, to drive them to a daycare outside of the community, on behalf of the parents who have considered 1/2 day nursery or kindergarten, and then simply opted out of this educational experience for their kids because the logistics of transportation were too much; please, give us an opportunity to explore this - it could be decades before there's another chance.

Public engagement (optional)

I consent to being contacted to participate in potential public engagement related to this matter.
Yes

Personal information

First name
Melissa

Last name
Bowman Wilson