

Jan/Feb 2017

CHNA Position Paper on the potential impact of the new location of the Ottawa Hospital – Civic

Campus on the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood

With the December, 2016 announcement that the Sir John Carling site has been approved as the new home for the Civic Campus of The Ottawa Hospital, and with the $3M planning grant now in place, plans for the new Civic on Carling have begun in earnest.

As a non-profit community group representing approximately 2,000 households adjacent to the Civic Campus of The Ottawa Hospital, The Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association (CHNA) is actively engaged in providing our members with a vehicle for a timely flow of information as the planning process evolves. Further, the CHNA provides a mechanism for the bilateral flow of essential information.

The CHNA Executive has identified several key issues:

1. The potential negative impact on traffic management and safety within the neighbourhood.

Currently, streets such as Holland Avenue and Parkdale Avenue and Sherwood Drive may be viewed as ‘failed’ streets in that traffic volume meets the threshold for Area Traffic Management Studies. Additionally, Fairmont Avenue and Bayswater Avenue are at risk. Ensuring an effective transit and transportation plan is essential.

1. Liveability - A key goal of the CHNA is to maintain a vibrant, healthy, liveable neighbourhood for our members that includes: green space and protection of the environment; safe and efficient transportation routes for cyclists and pedestrians; and the ability for our residents to use and enjoy their homes and property. Development on this scale can negatively affect the liveability of nearby residences if that is not included as a goal in the planning process.
2. Meaningful public engagement with key stakeholders and politicians that is transparent and timely, throughout the planning process.
3. To our knowledge, this development represents a unique scenario with three healthcare facilities (i.e., Canada’s largest heart health centre, a Group A teaching hospital, and an as yet to be determined healthcare facility on the existing Civic Campus), immediately adjacent to a residential neighbourhood. The combined impact must be evaluated and negative effects need to be mitigated as much as possible