



CANADA

House of Commons Debates

**THE HONOURABLE JOE VOLPE, P.C., M.P.
PRESENTING PETITIONS: LAWRENCE-HEIGHTS REDEVELOPMENT
THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2010**

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present a petition on behalf of thousands of residents in Eglinton—Lawrence, especially in the area bounded by Bathurst, the 401, Eglinton, Dufferin and those east of Bathurst going up to Avenue Road. They have expressed great concern at the city of Toronto's emerging preferred plan to redevelop and sell off about 100 acres of Lawrence Heights for private residential and commercial development on lands formerly developed and owned by CMHC.

They are concerned primarily because this is going to create a city in the middle of their riding and community, a city of 20,000 to 25,000, whose presence will put enormous strain on water and sewage services and cause backup on the services as currently exists. There will be an enormous traffic flow, probably somewhere between 14,000 and 17,000 additional cars on a daily basis in what is otherwise a very quiet neighbourhood.

In fact, they are so concerned that they have taken to petitioning both city council, Queen's Park and now CMHC through the House because of the massive increase in traffic congestion, increased exhaust and noise pollution, noisy, crowded neighbourhoods, a decrease in safety and security, a reduction in privacy and space and devaluation of property prices.

As a result, they, as residents of Eglinton—Lawrence, call upon the minister responsible for Central Mortgage and Housing to investigate and ensure that the redevelopment under consideration is consistent with the original conditions of land transfer from Central Mortgage Housing to the Toronto housing community and implore that the government engage itself in the most vigorous of fashions in order to preserve and maintain that which they bought into when they became thriving members of a community of dedicated Canadians to developing not only Toronto but all of Canada.