

gbna-toronto.com info@gbna-toronto.com

Dear friends,

Development in our extended community, whether at Woodbine/Gerrard, on Kingston Road, or along Queen Street, is important to us all. Please join us for a community meeting on Tuesday, April 29, 7.30-9pm, at the Beaches Recreation Centre, 6 Williamson Road for a discussion of:

- the future of Queen Street
- the Development Permit System
- YMCA development

Seating is limited. Brief background notes are as follows.

Queen Street

The GBNA believes that the "Official Plan Amendment" for Queen St E. that is currently under study by the Planning Department is a positive step forward in recognizing and maintaining the unique character of Queen Street in our area. Additionally, we continue to stress the view that approving development on a 'site-by-site' basis without consideration for the cumulative impact on streetscape, traffic, infrastructure, etc is bad planning.

Kingston Road YMCA development

The YMCA is reported to have purchased two residential properties along Balsam Avenue behind their current location on Kingston Road. With their earlier purchase of the funeral home property at the corner of Beech Avenue, the YMCA location now offers expanded room to address parking needs and impact on residential neighbours. GBNA has not yet acquired specific details, but will look for items that matter to the community, such as a good 'fit' with Kingston Road surroundings, a contribution to affordable housing, public realm improvements, adequate parking, minimized impact on residential neighbours to the south, and leadership in environmental efficiencies.

Development Permit System in Toronto

The City is contemplating a substantially new approach to reviewing development applications under its proposed "Development Permit System" (DPS), highlighted here: www.toronto.ca/planning/reset. DPS would set area-specific details for any new development.

While on the one hand this promises greater sensitivity to local issues such as scale and cumulative impact, it currently lacks specific details. We're also concerned that under DPS a developer could still appeal a negative decision to the OMB, while individuals and resident associations could not. GBNA will work with other umbrella groups across Toronto to seek solutions to our concerns. In the meantime, very good summaries by the Coalition of Residents and Ratepayer Associations and the

Federation of North Toronto Resident Associations are available here: [CORRA](#) and [FoNTRA](#).

People like you make the difference!

GBNA and the Resident Associations that support us offer the only means for an organized and informed community voice to influence how planning and development benefits our area. Your support makes this possible. The lessons from the Queen/Woodbine OMB cases, regardless of their outcomes, are resulting in much stronger policies to maintain a 'small town main street' character for Queen Street. With your terrific help, the remaining shortfall in our Queen/Woodbine action is now **just under \$4000**. Your financial support remains important. Please donate at gbna-toronto.com.

Jan and the GBNA team.

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Who we are – Our Purpose

To build strong working relationships with those, such as city planners and our GTA Councillor, whose decisions have an impact on our community.

To continually raise our already strong credibility as the voice for an engaged community so as to influence policy decisions impacting our community.

To encourage, with the member Resident Associations that support us, a strong sense of community in the Greater Beach area, so that the changes that are occurring are ones that make us stronger and healthier.

To support only well considered growth and development that enhances all aspects of the community: economic, social and environmental, for the long term.

GBNA member groups

GBNA is an umbrella association with the following members:

Beach Triangle RA Kew Beach NA Toronto Beach East RA Balmy Beach RA Beach Waterfront CA Norwood Park RA Friends of Glen Davis Ravine

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