January 8, 2019

City Clerks #8007
The City of Calgary
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 2M5

To Whom It May Concern;

Re: Proposed Building – Edmonton Trail & 27th Avenue NE (LOC 2018-0172)

We have just been advised that our previous notice to Mr. Joseph Silot was not presented to City Council in rejection of the proposed build on 27th and Edmonton Trail NE and we are quite concerned that such a disregard and lack of respect is acceptable. We ask that our letter be given to City Council for the meeting on January 14, 2019.

The owner of residential lot on the South corner of 27th Avenue is currently applying for a re-zoning for mixed use of office, retail and residential with heights of up to 8 stories.

This is disturbing for this quiet little community that was once the gem of Northeast Calgary. We’re a proud community that takes pride in our diversity and if you drive down this street, you will see the pride that this particular street takes in our beautiful City. We have a playground that was rebuilt and is highly used by children, a well-tended and gorgeous community garden, an active Community Centre and homeowners who value their properties. Allowing this high density building in this quiet area will:

1.) Increase already unsafe traffic; an ill-installed speed-bump and traffic calming measures recently added did not reduce but only enhanced joy-riders to speed up and down our avenue and enjoy airtime with their vehicles through the playground area creating very dangerous situations;
2.) There will be one entrance into the office / residential building off Edmonton Trail and that is 27th Avenue (there is no back lane to use as an additional entrance) thereby again increasing traffic through the playground area creating a danger for the children and disregard for the residents which with our famous speed bump, has already created several dangerous close calls with residents;
3.) Lack of already congested parking for the residents due to increased office / residential parking for the new office / residential ‘tower’;
4.) Shade / shadows for residents from an over height tower in a residential neighborhood;
5.) Increased noise;
6.) Dangerous left hand turns onto Edmonton Trail from 27th Avenue due to increased traffic;
7.) With the additional 16 residential units on the north side of 27th Avenue, the traffic congestion will be unmanageable for this small residential neighborhood and limited parking (yes, stressing parking again as only 1 stall per unit was approved by the City).

8.) With the current developments at the West end of the Avenue, perhaps a cul-de-sac at the eastern extent of those developments should be considered regardless of the development. This would block additional traffic on 27th and preserve the safety of our children at the playground by avoiding the dangerous driving issues we are currently dealing with;

9.) A tower this high will stand out sorely as there is no other tower north of 16th Avenue on Edmonton Trail in the residential area.

10.) We ask that we are treated with the same respect as the City treats other inner-city neighborhoods with larger developments, ie: Hillhurst off Kensington road where the roads have been blocked off with stylish barriers or cul-de-sacs to deal with traffic and building issues;

Our Community Planner failed to invite those most affected in the Community of this development and therefore it would appear that there would be little opposition to its approval. Please know that had the surrounding neighborhood been advised of this proposed land use, there would have been many in the Community in attendance to voice our concerns.

We have no issues with forward-thinking developments that are built with quality and the neighborhoods in mind, but someone wanting to develop a building with 6 – 8 stories in a residential neighborhood is not considering the neighborhood nor the safety of the area. This is where we ask the City to intervene on its Residents behalf and take our concerns first and foremost into consideration and be there to ensure our safety and concerns come first.

We are certain that Mr. Webb (Winston Heights Community Planner) will work with and support our concerns with the same grit and determination he is with the Coop development on the other side of Winston Heights.

We thank you for your time and consideration of our concerns on what this proposed land use would bring in detrimental effects to our community.

With respect,
Joanne & Trevor Robertson