



October 7, 2024

To: All Toronto City Councillors
And to: Mayor Olivia Chow

Re: Council Meeting October 9 – 11, 2024 EX 17.5 Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport – Runway End Safety Areas

We lead the three residence associations and community groups in the areas closest to the Island Airport: Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association, York Quay Neighbourhood Association, and Waterfront for All, an umbrella group of waterfront resident associations.

As you know, Ports Toronto and Nieuport Aviation, operators respectively of the island airport and terminal, are lobbying Councillors to vote to reject the recommendation of Council's own Staff in the Report of September 27, 2024 that Council approve RESA 1 now, and leave other issues to be voted on later after study and public consultation.

They tell Councillors the City must instead agree NOW to much more expensive options RESA 2 and 3. These options go far beyond the safety issues. They would expand the airport by adding more landfill for taxiways, roadways, sound walls and other features.

We are concerned that Ports Toronto and Nieuport's representatives have been claiming falsely to City Councillors that RESA 2 or RESA 3 respond to, or have been suggested by, members of the community at meetings such as those of the Billy Bishop City Centre Airport Community Liaison Committee.

These claims are untrue. We have never called for RESA 2 or RESA 3. We have never suggested or asked for "sound walls." No one knows if such structures would address the many problems or just cause new ones. That is just one of the many unanswered questions about the island airport that need careful study and consultation, just as City Staff recommended.

We are deeply concerned that airport industry representatives would misrepresent what we have said in such an important and time-limited debate.

Ulla Colgrass, York Quay Neighbourhood Association
Joan Prowse, Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association
Edward Hore, Chair, Waterfront for All