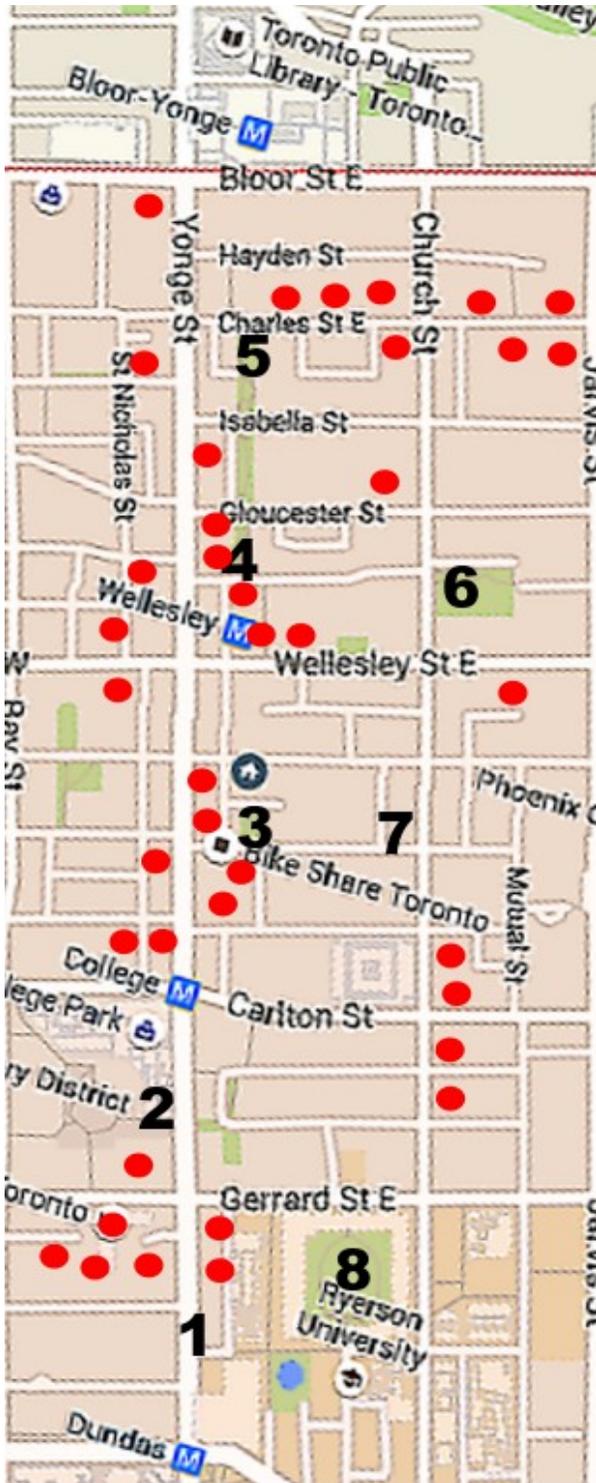


LIFE Walk: Historic Yonge & Church

July 5, 216

The walk will be about the city that we're creating. Specifically about "Historic Yonge" (between College & Charles) and about Church Street (between Charles & College) – the Church-Wellesley Village. The city has approved a planning framework for the area and has approved a Heritage Conservation District for Historic Yonge. But both are under appeal at the Ontario Municipal Board. The development pressure is intense. Each red dot on the map represents a new or proposed condo. That's some 20,000 new condos, or 30,000 new residents. What should be preserved? What should happen at the street level? What's the role of retail?



1 – **Ryerson Student Learning Centre:** Intense development is projected, on both sides of Yonge, immediately to the north. Two towers are proposed east of Yonge and four towers are proposed to replace Eaton's Chelsea Hotel.

2 – **Eastern Entrance to College Park Park:** Thanks to Section 37 money from Aura, the park is being rebuilt. Aura is, thus far, Canada's tallest condo and Eaton College Park was planned to be the British Empire's largest commercial building.

3 – **Alexander Parkette:** A too typical example of under maintained public green space, surrounded by co-op housing, rental apartments, and a rapidly growing number of condos. (It's located above the space where we park our car.)

4 – **James Canning Park:** The south end of 3 parks above the subway, with plans to have a "green" connection from Charles to Wood. Two condos, plus a park, are proposed to replace the Green P parking lot and the two adjacent buildings to the east.

5 – **George Hislop Park:** The north end of the 3 linear parks, ending on Charles, next to Sanctuary and just west of a veritable flood of new condos along Charles. The fence around Sanctuary's back yard is a sign of the local tensions.

6 – **Barbara Hall Park:** In the heart of Toronto's gaybourhood, surrounding The 519 Community Centre. The Village along Church is "protected", but Wellesley is seeing intense development and new development are moving south from Charles and north from Carlton.

7 – **Alexander Wood Statue:** He was an "interesting" gay figure from Toronto's past and the absence of benches tells a story of the drug related problems that can arise during the early morning hours in the Village.

8 – **Ryerson Community Park:** Ryerson has come a long way from the polytech that I remember. Should there be a Ryerson residential area? Would that be a fit and proper future for the Church-Wellesley Village?

It's our future that's being built. We need experiments. We need a shared vision. In our 3rd Age, we should be working to actively shape that vision.