

Janzen, Heather

Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Mohamad Elbardo - Unique Lighting Inc - Provincial Approach to Homelessness - Application for Emergency Residential Shelter - 1701 Idylwyld Drive N - CK 4355-023-006 x 750-6

Attachments: Letter to the city.doc

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>

Sent: Monday, November 20, 2023 1:09 PM

To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>

Subject: Email - Communication - Mohamad Elbardo - Unique Lighting Inc - Provincial Approach to Homelessness - Application for Emergency Residential Shelter - 1701 Idylwyld Drive N - CK 4355-023-006 x 750-6

--- Replies to this email will go to unique.lighting.saskatoon@gmail.com ---

Submitted on Monday, November 20, 2023 - 13:05

Submitted by user: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

I have read and understand the above statements.: Yes

I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.: No

I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.: No

Date: Monday, November 20, 2023

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Mohamad

Last Name: Elbardo

Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name: El Bardouh

Phone Number : [3069341945](tel:3069341945)

Email: unique.lighting.saskatoon@gmail.com

Address: 1403B Idylwyld Drive N

City: Saskatoon

Province: Saskatchewan

Postal Code: S7L 1A7

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): uniuquelightinginc

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: proposed Emergency Residential Shelter

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: proposed Emergency Residential Shelter

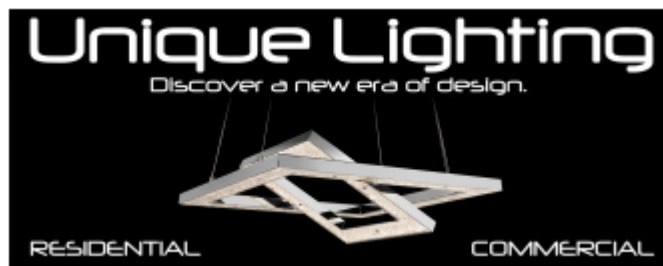
Comments:

I would like to express my concerns regarding the proposed location of the Emergency Residential Shelter.

Attachments:

- [Letter to the city.doc](#)46.5 KB

Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?: No



Uniquelighting@sasktel.net

Subject: Concerns Regarding the Placement of an Emergency Residential Shelter in the Idylwyld Area

To Whom It May Concern:

I am reaching out to express my concerns over the proposed Emergency Shelter to be located at 1701 Idylwyld Drive North. My concern as the owner of Unique Lighting Mall is echoed by several fellow business owners situated in this community.

The Idylwyld area encompasses numerous retail businesses, and the proposed addition of an Emergency Residential Shelter in this vicinity raises significant concerns among us. There appears to have been minimal consideration by the City and the province regarding the selection of this shelter's location. Our businesses have worked hard to establish safety and rejuvenation of the Idylwyld neighborhood. Despite our effort, we have experienced a significant increase in crime and individuals struggling with homelessness and addiction, especially since last year. The proposed location is on a major artery entering to Saskatoon. Do you want the image of homeless individuals sleeping in the back alleys and in parking lots to be the welcoming front step into Saskatoon?

We can understand and appreciate that addressing emergency housing is a priority of our city and our government. However, this hasty proposition appears to have occurred with little to no consideration for the current establishments in this area and the precarious environment we find ourselves in. There has been no clarity or research provided on how this will impact our businesses, the safety of our customers and ourselves, and the sustainability of this initiative moving forward.

The only thing that we know for certain is that this proposed shelter's placement will drastically diminish real estate values, stifle commercial development, and inhibit the rejuvenation of Idylwyld as a crucial artery into Saskatoon with vibrant businesses. This is in direct contrast to the years we have worked to positively contribute to the tax base and in bettering this neighbourhood. Wouldn't a location close to a mental institute or to a hospital be more suitable for individuals who suffer from mental illness and addiction?

We harbor profound apprehensions about the renewal of our leases, foreseeing reluctance from tenants to continue in an area affected by the addition of this shelter. Conversations with

various stakeholders, including the owner of Tim Hortons, Ken Ox the Quality in, Mrs. Rami, Sardinia strip mall across the street, and the owner of the adjacent land, echo our concerns. The consensus is unanimous: placing the shelter in this location is not conducive to the interests of the tax base and businesses in proximity.

I wish to emphasize our collective resolve to challenge this decision and any proposed zoning alterations as it does not align with the best interests of the retail sector. We believe that this proposal will NOT provide an appropriate and sustainable solution to address emergency residence and argue that approving this plan will only work to actively harm small business.

Sincerely,

Mohamad Elbardouh

Owner, Unique Lighting