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**From:** Web NoReply  
**Sent:** Monday, May 6, 2024 3:34 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - J Robert Lafontaine - Housing Accelerator Fund – Incentives - CK 750-4 x 1860-1  
**Attachments:** SHIP Housing Accelerator Fund Response\_.pdf

--- Replies to this email will go to [RLAFONTAINE@SHIPYXE.CA](mailto:RLAFONTAINE@SHIPYXE.CA) ---

Submitted on Monday, May 6, 2024 - 15:27

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

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, May 06, 2024

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** J. Robert

**Last Name:** Lafontaine

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** 3069865278

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [RLAFONTAINE@SHIPYXE.CA](mailto:RLAFONTAINE@SHIPYXE.CA)

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** 15- 2220 NorthRidge Drive

**Ward:** Not Sure

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership

**What do you wish to do ?:** Submit Comments

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** Housing Accelerator Fund

**Comments:**

Please see the attached support for Affordable Housing Incentives.

**Attachments:**

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

6 May 2024

City of Saskatoon  
222 3rd Ave North  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Saskatoon City Council,

On behalf of Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership, I wish to express our support for the initiatives outlined in the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) for the City of Saskatoon.

The Housing Accelerator Fund, as a federal funding program from the Government of Canada, represents an opportunity for local governments to address the pressing issue of housing supply and affordability, and we thank the City of Saskatoon for its proactive approach in pursuing these initiatives.

The proposed allocation of the majority of the HAF funding to incentive programs, including support for new affordable housing units, multiple unit dwellings in priority growth areas, and housing development on City-owned land, reflects approaches that can tackle the diverse needs of the community.

The emphasis on affordable rental housing, particularly considering the identified gaps in Saskatoon's housing supply, is indispensable. By offering capital grants, building permit fee rebates, and incremental tax abatements, Saskatoon is providing tangible support to developers and organizations committed to addressing the affordable housing crisis.

It is our view that the affordable housing crisis is in direct correlation to the increasing number of homelessness in the City of Saskatoon. The situation in homelessness is of course, is exacerbated by high rents, low vacancy rate, low assistance rates for rent and poor policy making decisions as well as an opioid crisis and the ugly history of generational and intergenerational trauma of residential schools.

The initiatives outlined in the Housing Accelerator Fund for the City of Saskatoon have the potential to drive meaningful change and improve the lives of residents by expanding access to affordable housing. We offer our support to these initiatives and look forward to seeing the positive impact they will have on the community.

Thank you for your dedication to addressing this critical issue, and we hope to work in partnership with the City in these endeavors.

Sincerely,

J. Robert Lafontaine  
Executive Director  
Saskatoon Housing Initiatives Partnership  
Treaty 6 Territory | Homeland of the Métis  
rlafontaine@shipyxe.ca