

Walter, Penny

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Melissa Kujawa - Housing Accelerator Fund and Corridor Residential - CK 750-1
Attachments: Melissa's City Letter copy 3.docx

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, May 27, 2024 4:06 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Melissa Kujawa - Housing Accelerator Fund and Corridor Residential - CK 750-1

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Monday, May 27, 2024 - 16:00

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 27, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Melissa

Last Name: Kujawa

Phone Number : [306](tel:306) [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] 10th St E

Ward: Not Sure

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Any pertaining to reZoning.

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Anything pertaining to reZoning.

Comments:

See attached letter.

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

Melissa Kujawa
[REDACTED] 10th Street East
Saskatoon, SK
306 [REDACTED]

27 May 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I really appreciate that you are trying to tackle the housing crisis that is sweeping Canada right now. I think we need to be clear though about who is actually suffering from that crisis in Saskatoon, and what real steps can help those most in need. To be clear in is not you and me who are suffering from a housing crisis. What we need is more subsidized, below market rate rentals for those with low to very low income and that doesn't require wholesale re-Zoning of the entire City.

The proposals that are being put forth do NOT in any way shape or form address the housing crisis. The people who need housing are not going to be able to afford the rent that will be charged in any new-build constructed in the desirable neighborhoods of Saskatoon. Those will be beyond their price range. What is desired is more SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS, not more apartment buildings.

If your current proposal goes through, not only will it NOT address the housing crisis, but it will utterly destroy the beauty and character of Saskatoon.

What you are proposing is to single handedly change the zoning that WE PAID FOR. We CHOSE to live in the zones in which we purchased a house. You will simply decide to take away our choice for something that only you and developers want, not what the people in Saskatoon want. And we all know very well, that if you do change out zoning you will NOT lower our taxes to fit the new zones. And in fact you will increase them even further to pay for the ridiculous amount of infrastructure that would be needed to retrofit the current single home dwelling neighborhoods.

You would choose to jam in a huge amount of people into the center of the city, with little regards to infrastructure and additionally, to other resources. How many food deserts are there currently in Saskatoon? How far do people have to travel to get groceries? I know that you think that people will be forced into taking buses if this goes through. Not one more person who can afford to drive will take the bus, for one very simple reason: it is extremely dangerous to do so. My sister is a prosecutor here in Saskatoon, and can tell you that the number of files that come in for serious crimes committed on buses is unacceptably high. Even if the buses were to run on time, something that can never be fixed given our weather, the crime rate is too high for it to be a desirable mode of transportation for anybody but those who have no other option. Quick question - how many city councilors take the bus?

\$40 million dollars from the federal government over four years is a drop in a bucket for the kind of restructuring for sewer, water, and gas lines that would need to be retrofitted in old neighborhoods. This looks seductively like a large amount of money, but is barely touching the cost of city infrastructure. Taxes would have to go way up to pay for that, and that is simply unacceptable, considering that our taxes increase every year beyond the cost of living.

Why should rich people be the only people who get space? Because if you do this, our space will be gone for good. Rich people can always buy in less dense areas and they will, because no one in Saskatoon wants to live in a city like Toronto or Vancouver. If they did, they would move there. Saskatoon used to be regarded as a best kept secret. This density increase would destroy forever the character and beauty of Saskatoon. Do we really want to do that so we can access a mere \$40 million dollars?

No one I have talked to knows about this. The Federal Government used the prospect of a seemingly large amount of money, and the pressure of a completely unreasonable timeline to force blanket re-Zoning, which won't do anything to help people in need in Saskatoon, and will cause great harm to our beloved city. The residents of Saskatoon do NOT want their chosen zone to be arbitrarily taken away in a hasty decision to grab federal tax dollars.

If you vote for this, you are going against what the majority of people in Saskatoon want. This is NOT what we elected you for.

Sincerely,

Melissa Kujawa