

Walter, Penny

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Mercy Harris - Housing Accelerator Fund - Permitting Up to Four Units in all Residential Zoning Districts – CK 750-1

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2024 6:35 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Mercy Harris - Housing Accelerator Fund - Permitting Up to Four Units in all Residential Zoning Districts – CK 750-1

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

Submitted on Sunday, May 26, 2024 - 18:35

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: Sunday, May 26, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Mercy

Last Name: Harris

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Cumberland Ave. S.

Ward: Ward 6

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Municipal Planning Commission

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 7.6 Housing Accelerator Fund – Permitting Up to Four Units in all Residential Zoning Districts [GPC2023-0503]

Comments:

Dear Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my support FOR the aspect of the Housing Accelerator Fund which will allow up to four units in residential areas. As a renter with a modest income, I believe it is crucial that the City do all it can to promote affordable housing.

Saskatoon has a shortage of affordable housing, and as such, we must increase the supply of housing. I believe that allowing four units in residential areas will help alleviate this crisis.

Four-unit buildings are not the menace that some make them out to be. A four-unit structure is easily be no larger than a medium or large single-family home. For example, think of what a two-story duplex or two adjoining infills look like; now imagine the top floor as a separate unit from the bottom floor. Changes like that will hardly ruin single-family home neighbourhoods.

Permitting more units will allow there to be greater population density in our downtown and core neighborhoods. This in turn will open up more housing -- that doesn't cost an arm and a leg -- in the highly desirable areas near downtown and the university. Greater core population density will reduce people's need for cars, and therefore reduce congestion. Would we rather have more people crammed on College Drive coming in from future new developments like Brighton? Or would we rather have more people walking, biking, and busing to downtown from Haultain and City Park? Additionally, having greater population density in existing neighborhoods will help reduce sprawl and slow the need for the city to extend costly services such as water into new developments on the outskirts of town.

Thank you for considering my comments. As a young renter with a modest income, finding an affordable place to live is daunting. Making it possible to have four-unit dwellings will open up a whole new sector of potential housing for people like me.

Thank you,
Mercy Harris

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