

## Walter, Penny

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Karin Melberg Schwier - Housing Accelerator Fund and Established Neighbourhood Zoning Changes - CK 750-1

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 18, 2024 8:24 AM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Karin Melberg Schwier - Housing Accelerator Fund and Established Neighbourhood Zoning Changes - CK 750-1

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

Submitted on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 - 08:23

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:** Tuesday, June 18, 2024

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

**Pronouns:** She/her/hers

**First Name:** Karin

**Last Name:** Melberg Schwier

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** Melberg Shweer

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] University Drive

**Ward:** Ward 6

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

**What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known)::** June 27 HAF

**What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?:** HAF and established neighbourhood zoning changes

**Comments:**

To: His Worship Mayor Charlie Clark and Members of City Council

<https://www.saskatoon.ca/submit-letterrequest-speak-council-and-committees>

Regarding HAF impositions and rezoning of established neighbourhoods

Dear Mayor Clark and City Councillors:

As a homeowner, I reject the proposed changes to Saskatoon neighbourhood zoning that allow for intrusion into neighbourhoods contingent on the strings attached to federal HAF money. I am including this letter in your on-line survey, but I will also be sending it to City Council.

As a homeowner in a historic neighbourhood, I am dismayed by the proposed intrusion by the City into all areas of the city in order to get a strings-attached packet of money from the federal government. We have grown increasingly uncomfortable in recent years as "exceptions" have been made to the outer edges of our neighbourhood, as "creeping precedent" amendments to zoning bylaws changes the character of where we live.

Now, though in the past we have been assured that deep intrusion into neighbourhoods won't happen, and that we all treasure historic neighbourhoods, we are flat out willing to allow development that will forever change the face of our city in order to get that federal money. Apparently, it is impossible to negotiate with the federal government on what they will and won't do?

I believe that homelessness and all the accompanying ills that go with it are huge societal problems for our city. We see gaggles of people hiding from the rain under tarps literally steps away from the River Landing development. The use of the foodbank has skyrocketed. Crime is rampant and our neighbourhood has seen an upsurge in break and enters. Of course, we have to put resources to intelligent use to try and get a grip on this crisis. So why can't we present an intelligent argument for using the HAF funding where we know it is needed rather than allowing the federal government to simply dictate to us? And if that is not possible, do we not turn it down as a matter of principle?

It seems we have been down this road recently with narrowly voting to allow the province to build an 8-lane freeway through the Swales. Where we could have made a stand to protect our enviable natural environment, as hundreds of letters to City Council implored, we settle for paving it as long as we ask the province to say something nice about nature while they're ruining it. The intrusion of three- and four-storey buildings being allowed next door to single family historic homes (or any homes where the lot is the right size) seems to me to be the same type of caving to the influence of people in the elsewhere who do not call this city home.

We bought our home in 1988 in a desirable historic neighbourhood near the University. We have invested more than three times the purchase price in upgrading and preserving the property, improving its appearance, and now pay thousands of dollars in taxes to the City. This is not a 'not in our back yard' argument, but between the BRT and this proposed federal government "gift," the interior of our neighbourhood will be forever changed. The impact of the size and type of development permitted, along with a free-for-all parking rule, will be damaging. We now live next to a rental home and parking is already a problem. We appreciate the "be nice" plea to developers who are asked to "lessen the appearance of the building size and shape." What does that mean and do you think developers will be bound by niceties when it comes to maximizing the potential of their investment in a property? We have already heard comments by people interested in "buying up" smaller homes in affected areas so that they may capitalize on the rezoning changes.

If negotiation with the federal government is not possible regarding HAF money, then I urge you to reject it. We don't have to accept a "gift" that forces citizens to sacrifice what we call home. Find another way to solve the problems many of our residents face.

Respectfully submitted

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