

Walter, Penny

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Brett Williams - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1
Attachments: WilliamsLetter.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Saturday, June 22, 2024 9:59 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Brett Williams - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1

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

Submitted on Saturday, June 22, 2024 - 21:58

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: Saturday, June 22, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: He/him/his

First Name: Brett

Last Name: Williams

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Kirk Cres

Ward: Ward 8

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Special Meeting - City Council Public Hearing - To consider reports regarding the Housing Accelerator Fund

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 4.1 Housing Accelerator Fund

Comments:

Please see attached letter

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

June 3rd, 2024

To SPC- Planning, Development & Community Services Public Meeting,

The proposed rezoning along the BRT corridors cannot proceed as planned. To implement the Housing Accelerator Funding in this manner is to sellout the character and culture of Saskatoon. I moved to Saskatoon in 2008 and a major appeal of Saskatoon was (and has been) the established character and culture of this city. It is the character and culture of Saskatoon that will be irreparably and irreversibly destroyed if this blanket rezoning goes forward as proposed.

I have always envisioned raising my family here, providing another generation of contributing citizens. The existing attractiveness of Saskatoon has made it a simple decision to envision our future here. The proposed rezoning has resulted in immediate doubt of our continued presence and investments here. If Saskatoon loses the established character and culture, it will also lose the contributing citizens who have invested in this character and culture.

The proposed application of the HAF is heartbreaking. I believe you have pursued involvement with civic politics due to the desire to invest in the present and future of Saskatoon. Which is why it is bewildering that you are consciously selling-out Saskatoon. The proposed rezoning will destroy the character and culture of Saskatoon. Your support of this plan is foundationally incompatible with an authentic appreciation of and care for Saskatoon.

The citizens of Saskatoon (your constituents) have been left in the dark about the extent of this plan, yet housing developers have already been buying properties in the zones identified for rezoning. This reeks of sneakiness and serves as confirmation that this plan is firmly in the interest of developers, while remaining to the severe detriment of current property owners. You have prioritized profits over people, and you are selling-out Saskatoon. You have prioritized housing developers over existing taxpayers, and you are selling-out Saskatoon.

No dollar amount could justify selling-out Saskatoon, and that fact that you are willing to do so is beyond insulting. We (and I include myself on behalf of Saskatoon citizens) need to return to the drawing board. Through actual consultation and innovation, we can craft a way to protect and improve Saskatoon through the immediate and distant future.

These rezoning plans must be paused to allow a proper made-in Saskatoon plan to be developed. At the very least, this should be paused for the next mayor and city council to vote on. With five councillors not returning next term, there is no incentive for them to make the right choice. Council decisions need to actually represent the citizens of Saskatoon. Out-going councillors can support this detrimental plan and face no consequences. This is wrong.

Pause the HAF plan.

Brett Williams, M.Ed., R. Psych.