

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Jasmine Liska - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 4:48 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Jasmine Liska - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1

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

Submitted on Monday, June 24, 2024 - 16:47

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, June 24, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Jasmine

Last Name: Liska

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] 11th St E

Ward: Ward 6

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 ?: Housing Accelerator Fund

Comments:

I have lived in Varsity View for nearly 20 years, and, in that time, I have been horrified at the changes in the neighbourhood. Smaller homes and homes with multiple suites have been torn down to make way for large single family homes, while small and medium multi-family buildings that are desperately needed and that would better use the space are allowed to be up for seemingly endless debate or -- because of the hassle -- are not even proposed at all. This needs to stop.

I love living in Varsity View: I love being able to walk, bike, and bus easily to the grocery store, to downtown, to the university, to Broadway, and to the river. I love being close to the different festivals and various activities that happen in the city. And I love the feel of the neighbourhood and the neighbourhoods around me. Having even this limited mix of apartment buildings, row houses, and densely built single family homes means that the streets feel lively and the neighbourhood feels neighbourly. This shouldn't be a lifestyle solely for an elite few who were lucky enough to find a house when they were cheap or who can afford increasingly more expensive -- and increasingly larger -- homes in central neighbourhoods; it should be available everywhere. Increasing density along the BRT routes and throughout Saskatoon allows this to happen.

But the proposed changes don't just have intangible lifestyle benefits for the people who would be able to move into the new buildings or live along the new BRT routes; they will significantly and positively benefit everyone in the city. More density increases the consumer base for shops and grocery stores in those areas. Increasing the number of people near bus routes, bike routes, and the BRT lines gives people more choice in how they travel, decreasing vehicular traffic and the demand for parking spaces in desirable areas. That, in turn, decreases the amount people need to pay to live and work in Saskatoon. And it increases the city's revenue from property taxes while avoiding the significant increase in ongoing cost of services and infrastructure maintenance that comes from building and maintaining new neighbourhoods on the outskirts of the city. This, in turn, gives us more money to invest in making life better for the people here.

We need the zoning bylaw changed so that land owners, builders, and organizations can more quickly respond to the actual needs of people who live here.

Please vote in favour of these changes.

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