

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Mathieu Gaudet - Métis Nation-Saskatchewan - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1
Attachments: Letter of Support_Signed_submitted.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 3:30 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Mathieu Gaudet - Métis Nation-Saskatchewan - Housing Accelerator Fund - CK 750-1

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

Submitted on Monday, June 24, 2024 - 15:30

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: He/him/his

First Name: Mathieu

Last Name: Gaudet

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: 310 20th St E

Ward: Not Sure

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Métis Nation-Saskatchewan

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

Comments:

Dear Members of the City Council,
Métis Nation- Saskatchewan (MN-S) wants to express its strong support for the proposed changes to the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw under the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Action Plan. The Government of Canada and the City of Saskatoon's recent agreement to fast-track 940 housing units over the next three years is a significant and important step towards addressing our city's housing needs.

Métis citizens face significant challenges regarding affordable housing. The Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Housing Needs Assessment highlights that affordability is the community's greatest challenge, with only 50% meeting the affordability threshold compared to the national benchmark of 84.2%. Particularly troubling is the finding that only 39.6% of renters meet the affordability threshold, indicating a dire need for affordable rental options

Data from Statistics Canada further emphasize the housing crisis, with 7.9% of Métis living in crowded housing and many experiencing significant bedroom shortfalls. The 2022 Saskatoon Point-in-Time Homelessness Count revealed a disproportionate number of Indigenous peoples experiencing homelessness, underscoring the urgency of addressing this issue.

From November 2023 to March 31, 2024, MN-S Citizen Support Workers helped 649 individual citizens across the province, by providing crucial support, information, advocacy, and referrals for housing. This included significant internal housing support through programs such as the First Time Home Buyers program, the Emergency Repair Program, and the Homelessness Prevention Funding. Notably, 192 Homelessness Prevention Funding applications were approved from March 2023 to the current date, demonstrating the pressing need for these resources.

Citizen Support Workers also facilitated support and referrals to external housing-related supports, including emergency shelters and housing services. For example, 54 instances of support and 26 referrals were made to emergency shelters like the YWCA Saskatoon, Interval House, and Saskatoon Tribal Council, highlighting the urgent need for more affordable housing units.

The HAF incentive program, approved by City Council, includes funding to support new affordable housing units and multiple-unit rental dwellings in strategic areas, as well as housing development on City-owned land. These incentives are vital for achieving the goals of the Housing Action Plan.

The amendments to the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw are forward-thinking and necessary to ensure Saskatoon can meet its housing needs. Permitting up to four units on residential sites and enabling four-storey developments near rapid transit will significantly increase housing availability. Updating the Corridor Mixed Use land use description to permit up to six storeys ensures higher density development close to BRT, encouraging efficient land use and transit-oriented development.

In conclusion, the proposed changes are critical to alleviating our housing crisis and promoting sustainable urban growth. MN-S strongly urges the City Council to approve these amendments and continue to support initiatives that provide affordable, accessible, and adequate housing for all residents.

Attachments:

- [Letter of Support Signed submitted.pdf](#)92.01 KB

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



June 20, 2024

City Council - City of Saskatoon
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Subject: City Council Public Hearing on June 27, 2024

Dear Members of the City Council,

Métis Nation- Saskatchewan (MN-S) wants to express its strong support for the proposed changes to the Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw under the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) Action Plan. The Government of Canada and the City of Saskatoon's recent agreement to fast-track 940 housing units over the next three years is a significant and important step towards addressing our city's housing needs.

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Métis Nation-Saskatchewan
310-20th Street East
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0A7
306.343.8285
metisnationsk.com



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The Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw amendments are forward-thinking and necessary to ensure Saskatoon can meet its housing needs. Permitting up to four units on residential sites and enabling four-storey developments near rapid transit will significantly increase housing availability. Updating the Corridor Mixed Use land use description to permit up to six storeys ensures higher density development close to BRT, encouraging efficient land use and transit-oriented development.

In conclusion, the proposed changes are critical to alleviating our housing crisis and promoting sustainable urban growth. MN-S strongly urges the City Council to approve these amendments and continue to support initiatives that provide affordable, accessible, and adequate housing for all residents.

Sincerely,



Loretta King

Minister of Housing and Infrastructure

