

Walter, Penny

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Paula Gioino - Housing Accelerator Fund and Zoning Bylaw Amendment Proposal - CK 750-1

From: Paula Gioino [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 9:59 AM
To: Web E-mail - City Clerks <City.Clerks@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Paula Gioino - Housing Accelerator Fund and Zoning Bylaw Amendment Proposal - CK 750-1

[REDACTED] ave c north

From: Paula Gioino [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, June 23, 2024 10:34 PM
Subject: Zoning bylaw amendment proposal

Hello:

I'm Paula, and I've called Caswell Hill home for 7 years, part of my 12 years in Saskatoon. I live on the [REDACTED] block of C North. Under this proposal, my residence would sit at the corner with a CMU and amidst a residential corridor. Originally from Argentina, a densely populated city, I cherish Saskatoon for its tranquility and convenient parking, crucial for navigating -40°C winters with kids. I chose Caswell (2016 to 2021 renting, 2021 up to today owner) because it was affordable then, and it remains so in comparison to other neighborhoods, allowing us to own a modest house with a private backyard and street parking, albeit no garage. While not initially picturesque with no fancy yard or kitchen renovations, it's solid and ours. Land remains reasonably priced here, but pending legislation threatens this. I fear developers may outbid families for land, prioritizing profit over community. Parking was a nightmare in my hometown due to density. Privacy is paramount; a looming 4-story structure next door would breach that. Caswell's charm lies in neighborly bonds, unlike cutthroat city life where every resource is contested. Dense living isn't synonymous with a good life; I sought better quality here. When we moved here, we were low-income newcomers barely making \$30,000 for our family of five. Homeownership seemed like a dream and we lived on the [REDACTED] block of Idylwyld with 3 kids for 6 years saving up for a downpayment. When the time finally came; a residential neighborhood was our choice. We've progressed financially, but towering developments could trap us again in noise and congestion, eroding our quality of life. Given our resources I don't think we can afford to move to another area with similar characteristics to Caswell. Passing the new legislation risks making the west less appealing. Density doesn't guarantee affordability. Smaller buildings (2/3 stories) could foster community without compromising existing homeowners' efforts. I'm particularly concerned about the extending CMU into Caswell Hill from 29th Street till ave C, as they will be on the path of children going to Caswell Hill Elementary school crossing mainly through ave B and avenue C into the other side of Caswell Hill, disrupting our residential peace and jeopardizing their safety. With three CMUs encroaching (31st west, 29th west, 27th west) and three large commercial areas around (33rd/Idylwyld/22nd), our neighborhood faces significant change. Half of our community will be engulfed in this new zoning bylaw. Retracting CMUs to Idylwyld would preserve residential character and balance commercial and housing needs. At the very least, limiting CMU to one block into 29th (ending at 29th and B) to match other planned city corridors CMUs seems a reasonable compromise. This issue deeply moves me; I've shed tears over it. Protecting our residential sanctuaries mustn't conflict with affordability goals.

I knocked on over 15 neighbors' doors today and all of them were unaware of this coming change and my suggestions here align with the many families that I have spoken with today.

Regards

Paula Gioino