

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Bruce Buckwold - Emergency Residential Shelter - CK 4350-20
Attachments: letter to city.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Thursday, September 12, 2024 11:07 AM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Bruce Buckwold - Emergency Residential Shelter - CK 4350-20

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

Submitted on Thursday, September 12, 2024 - 11:06

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: Thursday, September 12, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

First Name: Bruce

Last Name: Buckwold

Phone Number : [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: [REDACTED] Faithfull Avenue

Ward: Not Sure

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Buckwold Properties

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Wednesday September 25 Council Meeting

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Emergency Residential Shelter

Comments:

Letter Attached

Attachments:

- [letter to city.pdf](#)81.5 KB

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



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Tel. (306) 652-1660 Fax (306) 665-1817

September 11, 2024

His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council:

I have become aware of the planned emergency residential shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue. As a property owner in the area (24th Street and Ontario Avenue, and [REDACTED] 1st Avenue North) and a long time lover of the City of Saskatoon, I have significant concerns about the placement of the shelter in the downtown.

Safety –

History has demonstrated that the presence of a shelter has a detrimental impact on the safety of the neighborhood. Downtown shelters such as the Lighthouse and the temporary shelter on 1st Avenue have created a legacy of problems in the downtown, including increased crime, loss of business and safety. The proposed shelter is directly adjacent to a residential condominium, and many businesses that have employees in the neighborhood. It is our belief that Council, if ratifies the operation of the emergency shelter in the downtown, will be placing the safety of all those who frequent the downtown at risk, and contribute to fewer people visiting the downtown.

Downtown Revitalization –

Council is currently working on a project in excess of 1 billion dollars to assist in the revitalization of the Saskatoon downtown through the creation of a downtown event and entertainment district. As part of this project, the City is trying to attract development capital for the project, and create and maintain a property tax base that can support the City's long term plans. Placing an emergency shelter in the immediate area of the proposed development is directly contrary to your stated goal of revitalizing the downtown, and will certainly impact the planned project, including limiting capital availability, future development and property tax values in the downtown. Your actions, while perceived as temporary, have had and will continue to have longer term impacts on the downtown. It can take years to restore confidence in the safety and business viability of our downtown. That Council would take such actions that directly and negatively impact the revitalization of the downtown is disappointing. We all want a vibrant, prosperous downtown that is an attractive feature of the City.

The Provincial government and the City of Saskatoon have struggled to alleviate the problem of shelters in the downtown, as successive decisions have served to transfer the problem around the downtown area. Under no circumstances should shelters be located in areas of high density such as the downtown.

I urge you to stop the planned operation of this emergency residential shelter in the downtown area.

The City of Saskatoon owns land north of the downtown district between Queen Street and 33rd Street. Certainly temporary housing in temporary, movable structures is a better short term solution.

Yours truly,
Buckwold Properties



Bruce Buckwold