

Janzen, Heather

From: City Council
Subject: FW: Email - Communication - Ashley Berns - Dance Ink - Provincial Approach to Homelessness - Timeframe for Emergency Residential Shelter – 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20 x 750-6

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 4:27 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Ashley Berns - Dance Ink - Provincial Approach to Homelessness - Timeframe for Emergency Residential Shelter – 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20 x 750-6

--- Replies to this email will go to info@danceink.ca ---

Submitted on Monday, September 23, 2024 - 16:17

Submitted by user: Anonymous

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, September 23, 2024

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Ashley

Last Name: Berrns

Phone Number : [306-260-9114](tel:306-260-9114)

Email: info@danceink.ca

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: 817 29th St W

Ward: Ward 2

Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable): Dance Ink

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: Sept 25

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: Homeless Shelter Location

Comments:

Sept 23, 2024

City Councillors
City of Saskatoon
City Hall
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Dear City Councillors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed temporary homeless shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue. As a business owner in the neighbourhood, I understand the concerns raised by some members of the community. However, I believe that the urgent need for emergency shelter services far outweighs these apprehensions.

The Government of Saskatchewan's recent initiative to establish 60 new permanent emergency shelter spaces reflects a crucial and timely response to the homelessness crisis, which is exacerbated by extreme weather conditions. The City's identification of 210 Pacific Avenue as a suitable site demonstrates a proactive approach to tackling this issue, prioritizing the wellbeing of our vulnerable population.

This location meets City Council-approved criteria, offering adequate capacity for approximately 30 beds, essential facilities, and proximity to crucial services such as police, hospitals, and addiction support. By ensuring the shelter is at least 250 meters away from elementary schools, the City is taking responsible measures to create a safe environment for all residents.

Furthermore, safety and security are paramount in this plan, as demonstrated by the collaborative efforts of the Saskatoon Fire Department and Police Service with The Mustard Seed. The proposed site plan changes, including enhanced security measures, will further ensure a safe atmosphere for both shelter guests and surrounding businesses.

I urge my fellow business owners and community members to consider the human aspect of this initiative. The clients visiting our businesses will benefit from a community that is compassionate and supportive of those in need. It is our responsibility to advocate for the most vulnerable among us, prioritizing their basic need for shelter over transient discomfort that may arise from their presence.

Utilizing the City-owned property for this purpose not only makes financial sense but also aligns with our shared values of empathy and community support. I fully endorse the establishment of the temporary homeless shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue and encourage the City Council to approve this essential project for our community.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

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