

**Janzen, Heather**

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Dylon Gould - Rumely Corporation - Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20  
**Attachments:** Strong Opposition to the Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue (Dylon Gould).docx

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024 4:13 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Dylon Gould - Rumely Corporation - Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20

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

Submitted on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 - 16:12

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:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**Pronouns:** He/him/his

**First Name:** Dylon

**Last Name:** Gould

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** [REDACTED]

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**  
**Address:** [REDACTED] 24 Street, [REDACTED]  
**Ward:** Ward 6

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

What do you wish to do?: Submit Comments

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

What agenda item do you wish to comment on?: Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter 210 Pacific Avenue

**Comments:**

Dear Members of the City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed temporary Emergency Residential Shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue. As a homeowner and resident of the nearby Building at 24th Street East since 2019, I have witnessed firsthand the growth and transformation of our neighborhood into a balanced, vibrant community where families, businesses, schools, and childcare facilities thrive together. The establishment of an emergency shelter at this location, however well-intentioned, threatens to disrupt this progress and create immediate, negative impacts on our community.

**Opposite of Gentrification: An Immediate Negative Impact**

The introduction of an emergency shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue is the antithesis of gentrification, which is typically characterized by increased investment, revitalization, and improvement in the quality of life in a neighborhood. Instead of fostering growth, the presence of a temporary shelter risks driving away potential investors, businesses, and families, leading to a decline in property values and economic stagnation.

Shelters, while serving an important role in providing temporary relief for those in need, often bring with them significant challenges. These include increased crime rates, substance use, and the presence of individuals with untreated mental health issues. Such factors can deter new businesses and residents from investing in the area, turning what has been a burgeoning community into one of distress. This not only disrupts the economic momentum but also poses a threat to the well-being of the current residents and businesses, particularly those catering to children and families.

**Proximity to Vulnerable Community Spaces**

The proposed shelter location is directly adjacent to a daycare, private school, dance studio, and multiple family-oriented businesses, all of which are integral to the community's fabric. The introduction of a transient population, many of whom may be struggling with addiction or mental health issues, poses a significant safety risk to these vulnerable spaces. Parents and residents may feel increasingly unsafe in an environment where the challenges associated with shelter operations—such as drug use, loitering, or criminal behavior—become more prevalent.

Moreover, the Rumely Building itself is home to many families who have invested in this neighborhood with the expectation of a stable and safe living environment. The shelter's proximity threatens to undermine that sense of safety and stability, making the area less attractive to both current and prospective residents and businesses.

**Shelters as a Temporary Fix, Not a Long-Term Solution**

Research indicates that while emergency shelters provide immediate relief, they often fail to address the underlying causes of homelessness, and can even perpetuate a cycle of dependency and marginalization. This phenomenon, known as "shelterization," results in individuals becoming confined to shelter life, struggling to reintegrate into the broader community. Rather than serving as a pathway to permanent housing, shelters can act as holding facilities that fail to deliver the comprehensive support necessary for long-term solutions. By concentrating vulnerable populations in one area without the appropriate infrastructure or support services, the proposed shelter risks fostering a cycle of poverty and social exclusion, which will negatively affect the broader community. Research has shown that shelters can often lead to overcrowding, health risks such as the spread of infectious diseases, and the overburdening of local emergency services, including law enforcement. These are critical concerns that must be addressed before placing such a facility in a mixed-use, family-centered neighborhood like ours.

**Erosion of Safety and Community Stability**

The presence of a shelter in such close proximity to residential and commercial areas threatens

to reverse the positive development this community has worked hard to achieve. What has been a welcoming and growing neighborhood could quickly become an area marked by instability, discouraging families from staying and new businesses from entering. This is not only detrimental to the local economy but also to the sense of security and cohesion that defines our community.

#### Alternative Solutions

While I fully support the mission of providing emergency housing for those in need, I urge the City Council to reconsider the location of this shelter. There are undoubtedly more suitable sites that are better equipped to handle the complexities associated with shelter environments—locations that can provide the necessary health and social services while minimizing the impact on surrounding residential and commercial areas. A shelter should be part of a broader strategy focused on permanent housing and reintegration, not a temporary fix that risks harming both the shelter occupants and the community.

In conclusion, I respectfully ask the City Council to reject 210 Pacific Avenue as the location for the proposed temporary emergency shelter. The immediate and long-term risks to the safety, stability, and growth of this neighborhood far outweigh any potential short-term benefits. I strongly believe that by exploring alternative locations, we can find a solution that supports those in need without jeopardizing the well-being of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to continuing the discussion and working together to ensure a prosperous and inclusive future for all Saskatoon residents.  
Sincerely,

#### Attachments:

- [Strong Opposition to the Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue \(Dylon Gould\).docx](#)17.63 KB

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

September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Saskatoon City Council  
22 – 3rd Avenue North,  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

### ***Strong Opposition to the Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue***

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Sincerely,

Dylon Gould  
Resident & Director of [REDACTED] Building  
[REDACTED] 24th Street East, Saskatoon, SK [REDACTED]

