
Subject: 6.2.1 Communication - Cora Janzen - Saskatchewan Health Authority
Attachments: SHALOS_AffHousingIncentives_2025Feb03.pdf

From: Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 3:06 PM
To: City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>
Subject: Email - Communication - Cora Janzen - City-Owned Land Incentives 2025 - CK 750-1 x 750-4 x 750-0

--- Replies to this email will go to cora.janzen@saskhealthauthority.ca ---

Submitted on Monday, February 3, 2025 - 15:04

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, February 03, 2025

To: His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

Pronouns: She/her/hers

First Name: Cora

Last Name: Janzen

Phone Number : +1 306 [REDACTED]

Email: cora.janzen@saskhealthauthority.ca

I live outside of Saskatoon: No

Saskatoon Address and Ward:

Address: 310 Idylwyld Dr N #101, Saskatoon, SK S7L 0Z2

Ward: Ward 6

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

What do you wish to do ?: Submit Comments

What meeting do you wish to speak/submit comments ? (if known):: SPC - Planning, Development, and Community Services

What agenda item do you wish to comment on ?: 6.2.1 City-Owned Land Incentives 2025

Comments:

Attaching a letter of support for this agenda item from the health perspective of relevant executive leadership within the Saskatoon area of Saskatchewan Health Authority

Attachments:

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



February 3, 2025

Members of the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services
Office of the City Clerk
222 – 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 0J5

Dear Members of the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services

We are writing to **express our support for the Administration's report requesting approval for incentives to develop 256 new affordable rental units on three City-owned properties.**

Through the Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF) and the City's Housing Action Plan, increasing the number of affordable rental units is a crucial need in our community, and we commend you for your efforts and decisions to date.

Research consistently shows that housing plays a critical role in overall health and well-being. High-quality, affordable housing positively impacts health outcomes across various age groups. Here are some key pathways through which affordable housing contributes to better health:

Resource allocation combats basic needs insecurities: Affordable housing frees up household resources, allowing families to allocate funds for essentials such as food, utilities, and clothing.

Stability reduces stress: Housing stability positively affects mental health and reduces stress related to financial burdens. Knowing that one has a secure place to call home is essential for overall well-being.

Reduction in overcrowding in homes: Affordable housing helps alleviate overcrowding, which, in turn, benefits mental health and reduces the risk of chronic and infectious diseases.

Promotes aging in place: Accessible housing enables older adults and people with mobility limitations to remain in their homes comfortably.

Increasing neighbourhood density and the positive impacts on physical and mental health are also well supported by evidence. Some of these include that density:

- Promotes social connectedness which lead to increased life expectancy, less feelings of isolation, a sense of community, and lower rates of crime and violence
- Improves access to amenities such as food, employment, social supports, and more
- Supports multi-modal transportation options other than personal vehicle use. This will help prevent chronic disease and enhance quality of life, along with providing accessible and affordable options for those who cannot afford to own, operate, and maintain a personal vehicle
- Reduces emissions and ecological footprint

Healthy People, Healthy Saskatchewan

The Saskatchewan Health Authority works in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, acknowledging Saskatchewan as the traditional territory of First Nations and Métis People.

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We do recognize there are potential downsides to densification, such as a larger number of people living in a smaller area can result in tension or stress from ambient noise and differing preferences among neighbours. However, there are ways to mitigate those potential negative impacts.

Decisions made at the municipal level carry the potential to improve or worsen the health and well-being of the community's residents. We applaud the health-promoting housing decisions you've recently made, including a significant focus of the HAF incentives to be targeted for increasing affordable housing and the zoning amendments to promote a 'gentle approach' for increasing density along the transit development areas.

We encourage the Planning, Development and Community Services Committee, as well as City Council, to support Administration's current approval request for increasing Saskatoon's stock of affordable rental units.

Thank you for considering the health and equitable well-being of Saskatoon residents as you make this decision.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ahenakew, Vice President of First Nations and Métis Health

Andre Moss, Executive Director of Continuing Care – Saskatoon Urban

Lara Murphy, Executive Director of Population Health

Zoe Teed McKay, Executive Director of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Integrated Urban Health

Kelly Tokarchuk, Executive Director of Primary Health Care, Saskatoon

Dr. Jasmine Hasselback, Saskatoon Medical Health Officer

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