Sent: Monday, November 13, 2023 4:21:04 PM

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Delegation information
Committee: Executive Policy Committee
Committee - council: N/A
Committee - other: N/A
Agenda item (number and title): 19. Housing Accelerator Fund

Service inquiry: Submit Comments in writing
Participation preference: N/A
Comments in writing: Greetings to the Executive Policy Committee and it's members.

I wished to express my support towards the City of Winnipeg ending it's Exclusionary Zoning, in it's application for Housing Accelerator Fund dollars. It is vital for our city leaders to amend our out-dated and restrictive bylaws to ensure critical funding for housing.

City leaders MUST support recommendations from Minister Sean Fraser's letter to Mayor Gillingham, in order to bolster our application.
. Legalizing four units as-of-right city-wide; . Legalizing up to four storeys as-of-right within 800 metres of transit; and . Ensuring that new mid-rise housing zoning reforms targeted for mall sites and commercial corridors - as proposed in City Council's Strategic Priorities Action Plan - allow for as-of- right development to facilitate quick approvals and construction of new rental housing.

After decades of exclusionary zoning, we have stagnated many of our our communities, stifled their growth, caused housing prices to dramatically increase, and caused costly suburban sprawl. Furthermore, our current zoning laws encourage only low-density suburban sprawled housing from builders, as it is the most profitable means of construction under the current zoning laws. By not changing our these laws, we risk further financial insolvency of our city through higher infrastructure costs, further straining our city services, increasing carbon pollution through higher vehicle usage, and worsening homelessness.

I want a Winnipeg where housing is affordable, for my family, for my friends, and for my neighbors, but also for coming generations of Winnipegers. It should be clear to this Committee, that these dated laws have caused our City generations of endless grief. In addition, it would be a tragic loss for our city to be passed over for CRITICAL funding of 192 million dollars, in order to keep the status quo in place, and ignore what has been a major contributor of much of issues within Winnipeg.

This is why I implore this Committee and it's members to encourage all of City Council to support the recommendations of Minister Fraser, as I have with my family and friends. Many other cities have already abolished their exclusionary zoning laws with great success, and I hope Winnipeg can finally do the same.

Respectfully,
-Jeffrey Hodgins