

December 13, 2024

Leslie Macredie

Mayor Berry Vrbanovic and City Councillors
C/O Office of the Mayor and Council
Kitchener City Hall
200 King St. W.
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7

Re: Deferral of Inclusionary Zoning as recommended in Staff Report DSD-2024-498

Dear City Councillors and Mayor Vrbanovic:

I'm submitting my delegation to City Council in writing regarding the deferral Inclusionary Zoning from January 2025 to January 2026. I submitted a written delegation on the same topic to the December 2nd Planning and Strategic Initiatives Committee meeting.

Since this is my second delegation, I should be providing new information but frankly I'm not sure what else to say that hasn't already been said. I have faith that some of my fellow delegates will both answer questions that were raised by Council on December 2nd and also provide convincing statistics about how PMTSA development incentives clearly exceed any IZ deterrents.

The fight for affordable housing — for all kinds of housing — will succeed if we use all the tools at our disposal. IZ is one of those tools and it mustn't be delayed or abandoned through attrition. It's a very small slice of the pie but it's an important segment in the homeless to housed continuum. Its threat to developers is being overstated in an uncertain but not impossible future.

I'm so proud of Kitchener's progressive and humane approach with encampments and CTS sites. It is a provincial, even federal leader in housing starts and affordable housing approaches and projects. Please continue to set an example and implement Inclusionary Zoning next month.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Leslie Macredie