

Bates, Tamara

From: clerk@hamilton.ca
Sent: July 28, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Bates, Tamara
Subject: FW: Relocation of Men's shelter in old cathedral school

As requested

Katie Carson for Magda Green

Administrative Assistant II to the City Clerk
City of Hamilton
 905 546-2424 ext. 5485

From: Will Ferguson < >
Sent: July 27, 2020 2:44 PM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Office of the Mayor <mayor@hamilton.ca>
Cc: horwatha-co@ndp.on.ca
Subject: RE: Relocation of Men's shelter in old cathedral school

Hello,

In addition to Michelle's email, my wife and I have been living in the Stinson area for over 17 years now and seen many positive changes happening over the years. We've watched it transform, but also were at the beginning of the transformation - from a dirty, unsafe environment, to a safer, cleaner neighbourhood that has seen more young families moving in and setting down roots. We were excited to see others also improving this area, which has happened with significant investment by those who live here. However, within the last 2 years, the Stinson neighbourhood has been slowly transitioning back into the unsafe environment it used to be. As far as I understood, the City of Hamilton is not supposed to allow such a high density of the kinds of accommodations such as those listed below. Allowing the proposal for Cathedral School will simply further the disintegration of this once, flourishing area. This neighbourhood already suffers an unaddressed and improper use, such as vagrants and "homeless" campers using the local parks and rail trail as their personal residence.

-Stinson accommodates multiple RCF (residential care facility) homes and shelters Victoria manor 1 Victoria manor 2 Emerald lodge Shelly's home 2 location East Ave south (2 facilities) Jerelday Lodge Ruthford Lodge Good shepherd has multiple locations Etc....

- Victoria 1&2 and Emerald lodge are owned by the same owner as Rosslyn retirement.
- Stinson is still allowing corrupted businesses to profit off the most vulnerable people.
- residents of RCF, are given bare minimal care
- residents are found walking down the streets barely dressed, some with no shoes and some who haven't washed or changed in months.
- some residents stand on Victoria Ave S and Main St, Victoria Ave S and King St, aggressively panhandling.
- I have witnessed multiple occasions of violence and abuse going on, especially in Victoria manor.
- alcohol and drug abuse in the RCF
- excessive noise and profanities coming from RCF
- garbage and used needles in the alley way
- I have share my concerns with our councillor, Nrinder Nanny, bylaw and police but nothing has changed
- our councillor is ONLY focusing on HER political platform which is affordable housing.

- Stinson needs to fix the existing RCF's first before considering a homeless shelter
- our councillor needs to revoke licenses of Victoria Manor and Emerald Lodge and re-evaluate all the other RCF's before she allows a homeless shelter to operate
- Nrinder Nann's reply back to me, after expressing my concerns, was a pamphlet of programs that will be offered in the homeless shelter. Clearly, she has already decided on the shelter without any input from the residents living in the neighbourhood, who will be directly impacted.
- Nrinder Nann's decisions will compound our existing problems with RCF's -Stinson association is only run by people who fall in line with our councillor.
- any opinions going against those of the association and Nrinder are rejected and scrutinize by the association -Stinson association does not represent all (or any) of the majority of Stinson residents concerns about the proposed homeless shelter -Nrinder Nann focuses on the programs the shelter will offer but it's up to the individual to accept or refuse. Looks great on her platform for re-election, but does nothing to improve the ward.
- most homeless choose to refuse programs and stay outdoor due to the violence, drug use, close supervision and rules in shelters.
- Stinson is a residential neighborhood and all of our neighbours are in fear it will look like FirstOntario Center
- We have many residents who are elderly and families with young children, they should not be living beside an homeless shelter
- Stinson has it own problems with all the RCF's and the over flow of homeless moving along the rail trail and public parks.
- I have spoken to many neighbours in the Stinson area and ALL are against a homeless shelter coming to the old cathedral boys school.
- stinson is still dealing with property damage, vandalism, vehicle break ins and theft
- adding a shelter in area already full of RCF's will compound the violence and a unsafe environment
- please contact me if any further information/action is needed to have someone address these concerns seriously and not just brushed aside with a generic cut and paste response.

Regards,

William Ferguson