

Pilon, Janet

Subject: written submission

From: Lester Krames

Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 9:56 AM

To: Kelsey, Lisa <Lisa.Kelsey@hamilton.ca>

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Thank you for your understanding in giving me the opportunity to present the following.

My name is Lester Krames. I am a Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto, psychology department, and retired, living in Hamilton. I am an active volunteer in several different service organizations.

I am sorry that I had to miss my verbal presentation because of a doctor's appointment. Thank you for the opportunity to submit a short note for your consideration.

We moved to Hamilton in 1978 and bought a home in University Gardens. We loved the neighbourhood, but we belonged to the Adas Israel Synagogue and had to walk to services every Sabbath and Holiday. We moved to North Oval street to be closer to our Synagogue and community after one winter after trekking through the snow. Westdale, again was a wonderful neighbourhood to raise a family. When a home became available on Stroud Rd, we moved to our current residence so our children would not have to cross Main Street to get to school at the Hamilton Hebrew academy.

My family has grown, and last May, my wife passed away. Next November, I will be 80 years old and living alone in a big empty house. I want to remain in Hamilton and need to find housing scaled-down and close to my Synagogue. Hamilton is known as a city that cares about its senior citizens. Facilitating multigenerational housing that supports several communities should be a priority. This project at 1107 Main Street West will provide housing for seniors, students and families.

William Thomas has stated, "It turns out that older people pretty much want what everyone else wants: to belong to a community that includes people of all ages and remain connected to the living world." This project will allow seniors to live with dignity in an environment where they are not isolated, stigmatized and remain part of a larger community. It will mean all these advantages with the additional benefit of my being close to my religious community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for planning for the kind of Hamilton we all want.

Dr. Lester Krames