

**From:** Emily Kam

**Sent:** August 3, 2021 9:17 PM

**To:** clerk@hamilton.ca

**Cc:** Kelsey, Lisa <Lisa.Kelsey@hamilton.ca>; Danko, John-Paul <John-Paul.Danko@hamilton.ca>

**Subject:** Planning Committee Agenda for Item 10.5 "License Rental Housing (PED21097/LS21022) (Wards 1, 8 and parts of Ward 14)

Please include in the August 10th Planning Committee Agenda meeting for "Licence Rental Housing"

To whom it may concern,

I am in full support of the proposed by-law for licensing rental housing in our area. This will allow the city to make a much larger impact on unsafe, cramped student housing in the Bonnington neighbourhood specifically.

Walking the area it's easy to see the many, many safety issues that surround many rental properties in our high rental area. The main concern I have is the amount of people living in the 1.5 story homes built in our neighbourhood. These homes are not meant to have more than 3/4 bedrooms, while an easy realtor search shows some homes as having as high as 10 bedrooms, the average rental having 6/7.

Having entered many of the homes that are for sale in the area over the years, with these high bedroom numbers, I have seen first hand they are not anywhere near up to par-as a safe space.

I'd like to end on a few issues I've heard from our Syrian refugee neighbours over the past few years. They have five children, one who is in a power wheelchair, and have zero disability aids in the home. The home they live in has two sets of switch back stairs and I see the father carrying his son and chair everyday up and down the front steps. It's heart breaking. He has complained about his back many times.

They have had trouble with language, and communicating with their Toronto landlord, who when they first moved in did not supply a shovel for winter (or snow removal) or a mower in summer (so a few residents helped cut the long long grass after he showed me a by law note he could not read). More recently, he has stated to me the basement is leaking and he can't get help from the landlord to fix it. This is an example of where licensing would help support better living conditions for the family who is, in my opinion, in a vulnerable renting position. Again, this has my full support.

Emily Kam