

From: Penny Gill

Sent: February 25, 2024 12:33 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

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Subject: City Council Feb 28th 2024: Affordable Housing in Stoney Creek

I write concerning recent discussions of councillors trying to decide whether to maintain parking in some Stoney Creek parking lots or to use that land for affordable housing. As Councillor McMeekin put it, it is very hard to choose between two worthy alternatives.

In fact, there is no need to choose. The dichotomy is a false one. These parking lots are perfect locations to build affordable housing not **on**, but **above**, the parking lots. That is to say, the structure of the affordable-units building is elevated above the ground on columns, leaving open air parking in place on the ground.

Kitchener Council unanimously passed a resolution to explore this option in its boundaries. Hamilton needs to do the same.

Local retailers could rest assured that customers travelling to their shops would have plenty of parking, and everyone trying to build more affordable residences in Hamilton would achieve that goal as well.

This option is possible not only in Stoney Creek, but throughout Hamilton.

Below please find a link to a recent CBC item on this story

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/housing-over-parking-lots-kitchener-1.7091837>

Penny Gill