From: Dianne Wilson

Sent: Saturday, November 30, 2024 4:31 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Dec 3 Planning Committee Meeting Input

External Email: Use caution with links and attachments

Hello,

I'm writing in regards to the proposed changes around the ADU bylaw that would limit them to a one-storey. I'm concerned about the impact that would have on my own desire to construct an ADU in my yard, and therefore a concern that it will significantly restrict the development of ADUs in Hamilton in general.

A 2-story structure can still be quite attractive and unimposing, and ensures that small spaces can be used more effectively to construct a home that feels spacious enough to want to live in longer-term and more comfortably for more than one person, which is crucial for the type of middle-sized accommodation that is actually needed to address the housing shortage. This is counter to the intent of the change of legislation: to create more affordable housing for families. For myself, the home I can create utilizing 1-story will feel more restrictive, and expanding outwards would uncomfortably limit the garden area. The current height restriction seems quite reasonable for the nature of downtown neighbourhoods. There are so many beautiful examples of this, which I hope are being shared at the meeting.

In addition, any changes to the bylaw will cause problems for anyone in a similar position as myself, who has already been starting to plan based on the current bylaws, long before being able to actually submit a building permit. Even to have this considered at this point is making me rethink my project, if I cannot trust that the current bylaws will stand. It is critical in both moving forward on projects, as well as developing a sense of trust between those putting some faith (and money) in trying to address housing shortages, and the council, that the building bylaws are not changed in the middle of the process unless absolutely necessary.

Personally, I'd like to invest in this vision of Hamilton and hope that the council will support everyone else doing likewise.

Thank you very much for considering this, and all other voices at the delegation on Tuesday.

Sincerely,

Dianne Wilson