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City Council

Dear Members of City Council,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed restriction limiting additional dwelling units (ADUs) to one storey. I believe that this measure will have negative consequences for our community, it is not only reductive but, if passed, shows the City of Hamilton is saying NO to affordable housing solutions. I urge you to reconsider this motion

As we continue to face a growing need for affordable housing, it is crucial that we embrace policies that enable diverse, flexible housing options. By limiting ADUs to a single storey, we risk reducing the potential to provide much-needed housing in a way that is both sustainable and efficient. Two-storey ADUs offer homeowners the opportunity to maximize their available land and accommodate larger families or multiple tenants, without the need to build on more green space or engage in sprawling developments.

Additionally, limiting ADUs to one storey could have unintended consequences for property values, neighbourhood dynamics, and urban density. A more flexible approach that allows for two-storey structures where appropriate would better align with the city's goals of promoting sustainable growth, increasing the housing supply, and maintaining neighbourhood character. It would also ensure that homeowners can make the most of their properties while helping themselves and the city find solutions.

I believe that the restriction on two-storey ADUs is narrow backward thinking and does not address any of the the housing challenges we face.

Sincerely,
Bianca Metz