

From: Anna Buhrmann

Sent: March 31, 2025 8:53 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca; Amir, Amna <Amna.Amir@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Written submission in support of File ZAC-25-010 – For Apr 8 2025 Planning Committee

Re: Indwell's Zoning By-Law Amendment Application for 120 Wentworth St N

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning Committee,

We are writing in support of Indwell's application for a zoning by-law amendment to develop new affordable housing at 120 Wentworth Street North. We have been residents of the surrounding neighbourhood since 2022, living on Sanford Avenue North.

Indwell's adaptive reuse plan for the property, developed in partnership with the Wentworth Baptist Church congregation, responds to the needs of our neighbourhood. As rents rise and the rate of homelessness rises, our neighbours increasingly struggle to pay rent and find safe, affordable housing. As frontline healthcare workers, we see the impact that these stressors have on their health, safety, and wellbeing. Additionally, during the long months of winter, kids in the neighbourhood don't have many places to go to let out energy. Spaces where we can gather with our neighbours or hold meetings are limited; last year, we struggled to find an indoor space that could accommodate a camp for newcomer children in our neighbourhood. This proposed development would provide 50 units of affordable, supportive housing in addition to renovating the church hall and gymnasium for Indwell, church, and community groups to use — meeting many of the needs in our neighbourhood. These rental spaces and meeting spaces would be full almost as soon as they are opened!

We have followed Indwell's work closely for many years and have interacted with several tenants who speak highly of the impact Indwell has had on their lives through giving them safe spaces to call home and flourish. The housing that Indwell provides is supportive, dignifying, and affordable. Indwell does its work with excellence.

We believe the requested rezoning application to a Mixed Use Density Zone and requested site-specific provisions for building setback, built form, minimum rear yard and side yard, and landscaped areas are reasonable and should be supported.

Thank you for noting our support as you consider Indwell's application.

Sincerely,

Anna Buhrmann and Abigail Morton