

Robicheau, Vanessa

Cc: McHattie, Brian
Subject: RE: Student housing bylaws

From: Helen Silke
Sent: September-16-13 10:02 PM
To: Robicheau, Vanessa
Cc: McHattie, Brian
Subject: Student housing bylaws

To whom it may concern:

I understand that the council is to vote on measures that may significantly improve the situation for home owners in the areas of Hamilton that are directly affected by student housing and absentee landlords. I have lived in the Westdale area for 26 years; I have raised my 2 children here and continue to value the unique nature of this area. Unfortunately the area has deteriorated as a result of excessive numbers of people crammed into houses which are too often owned by uncaring owners who live elsewhere and who are profiting from unregulated practices. Any measure which will improve the quality of life for both home owners and renters will benefit not only the immediate area but also the larger Hamilton population. No one chooses to live in a slum, not even a student slum. Allowing unfair housing practices to continue may benefit absentee landlords in the short term but it is a disservice to the community in which they thrive and will only continue to foster further deterioration in Hamilton housing and quality of life.

I urge the council to vote in favour of the proposed changes.

Yours truly, Helen M. Silke