



WESTON DOWNS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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October 2, 2023

Mayor and Members of Council
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive
Vaughan, Ontario, L6A 1T1

Communication : C 3
Committee of the Whole (1)
October 3, 2023
Agenda item # 7

RE: Opposition to the "Reducing Barriers To More Affordable Housing Options" Member Resolution

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Weston Downs Ratepayers Association, I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed members resolution regarding the "Reducing Barriers To More Affordable Housing Options," specifically the directive to prepare a zoning by-law amendment that would permit "as of right" building permits for up to four residential units on a property wherever zoning permits single, semi, or townhouses.

While I understand the importance of addressing the affordable housing crisis in our city, I believe that this resolution, as it stands, may have unintended consequences that could negatively impact our neighborhoods and the quality of life for Vaughan residents. My concerns regarding this resolution include:

1. **Overcrowding:** Allowing up to four residential units on a single property may lead to overcrowding issues, increased noise, and a strain on local infrastructure, such as roads and schools.
2. **Parking:** Insufficient parking spaces for multiple units on one property could exacerbate parking problems in our communities, making it challenging for residents to find parking near their homes.
3. **Infrastructure:** Our current infrastructure may not be equipped to handle the increased demand that comes with denser housing. This could lead to strain on utilities and services.
4. **Aesthetics and Character:** The proposed changes might alter the character and aesthetics of our neighborhoods, potentially diminishing the appeal of our city for both current residents and prospective homebuyers.

I urge the City Council to consider alternative solutions that address the affordable housing issue while also preserving the unique character and livability of Vaughan's communities. This may include measures such as incentives for affordable housing development, partnerships with nonprofit organizations, or exploring other zoning options that strike a better balance.

I kindly request that the City Council engage in a thorough and open public consultation process to gather input from Vaughan residents and stakeholders before moving forward with any zoning by-law amendments related to this resolution. It is crucial that the voices and concerns of the community are heard and considered in this matter. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

I hope that you will carefully evaluate the potential impacts of this resolution and seek alternative solutions that benefit both the need for affordable housing and the well-being of our city's residents.

Yours sincerely,

Weston Downs Ratepayers Association

Per:
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