

Hello,

I'm a concerned resident over in the Foxfield neighbourhood. In our neighbourhood Facebook group, I learned that there is a vote on whether a mental health/homeless facility will be built over in what is essentially the corner of our neighbourhood.

While I support the idea of the facility being built, I believe this is not a suitable location for this kind of facility. Homeless and mental health facilities statistically bring more crime and drugs to their surrounding areas. Families with children, myself included, would not want any form of increased violence, theft, and drugs in this area. Very few are willing to tolerate such risk. I do not want any of these associated problems near my children. Therefore, I believe this facility should not be built so close to ANY residential area.

From my understanding, transitional housing means these people are agreeing to follow the rules in the facility and take meds for mental health/safe drug use while the city tries to put them in permanent, subsidized housing.

From my understanding, London has no supply of permanent, low income housing. I hear the wait list for that is years.

So will this really be a transitional facility? Will it just be a transitional facility by name? If it is true that there is no supply of permanent low income housing, wouldn't this facility effectively just be a permanent homeless/mental health/addiction treatment centre?

Having this facility built will only inevitably ruin the reputation of this beautiful area of the city, increase crime and drugs, causing decreased home prices and an exodus from the area. Residents did not spend their life savings to move to this beautiful area, with beautiful homes and nature, known for being safe, for the city to come rezone and have these unwanted risks suddenly appear.

Most neighbours that are aware of this proposal are expressing the same concerns. I urge that voting members vote no for the facility to be built near any residential area, especially my area on Fanshawe Park Road. Otherwise, I plan on relocating with my family.

Thank you for your time.

Dusan Stepancev