

Dear City Council Members,

I hope this message finds you well.

I am writing to express my concerns and those of many of my fellow residents regarding the recent decision to establish a homeless shelter at the Black Pearl Motel on Fanshawe Park Road West. Our neighborhood has long been known for its family-friendly atmosphere, where children can freely enjoy outdoor facilities like parks and trails without fear of being bothered or encountering situations that might make them feel unsafe.

While we understand and appreciate the importance of providing shelters for the homeless population in our community, we would like to respectfully request that you reconsider this particular location for the shelter. Our primary concern revolves around the safety of our community members and our families.

One major worry is the potential for individuals using the shelter to engage in drug or alcohol consumption in public areas where our children regularly play. We are concerned that this could create an environment that is not conducive to the safety and well-being of our youngsters. It is essential that our kids can continue to enjoy their outdoor activities without feeling threatened or exposed to inappropriate behaviors.

Moreover, we are anxious about the safety of our children, particularly in the evenings. We are concerned about the possibility of incidents like robbery or other criminal activities in the vicinity, which could negatively impact the overall sense of security in our neighborhood.

We are not opposed to supporting the homeless community, but we believe it is essential to strike a balance that ensures the safety and well-being of all residents. We kindly request that you consider alternative locations that may be more suitable for the establishment of a homeless shelter, where the immediate safety and comfort of our families are not compromised.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and your commitment to maintaining the quality of life in our community. We look forward to engaging in a constructive dialogue about this issue and hope for a solution that accommodates both the homeless population's needs and the safety of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Dr. Hussam Itani