

From: Nelson Rosales
Sent: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 8:52 AM
To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>
Cc: Rahman, Corrine <crahman@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] support for ward 7 homeless hub

Hello,

I'm writing to express my strong support for the Homeless Hub strategy the city is adopting.

I live in ward 7, and want to communicate my support for the Hub specifically being considered for 705 Fanshawe Park Road West. The transition housing and wrap around services this Hub and others will provide vulnerable people, is precisely the type of approach we need to start finding permanent solutions to the homelessness crisis causing so much suffering in our city.

Some of my neighbours have expressed fear about a potential rise in violence and crime in the area as a result of the Hub at Wonderland and Fanshawe. There is no evidence to support this. On the contrary, this Hub will serve precisely the people most affected by the crime and violence in our city's downtown: unhoused women. To deny them the chance for a safe start this Hub and others provides, is to shirk our responsibility to our most vulnerable neighbours.

Others have balked at the price tag of the Hubs. To them, I say creating more short-term shelter beds downtown fails to address the root causes of homelessness and addiction, while the crisis continues to grow. That is an ineffective and wasteful approach. To those neighbours I say, consider the cost in money and human misery that non-action and more stop-gap solutions already produce.

That is why I urge City Council to approve the Homeless Hub at 705 Fanshawe Park Road West. Morally and financially, it's the right thing to do.

I give consent for this letter to appear on the public agenda.

in peace,

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