

From: Lisa Cardinal
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2024 7:22 AM
To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>
Cc: Ferreira, David <dferreira@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Add topic to Sept 24

Hi there,

I would like to have my letter added to the agenda regarding Item 3 Scheduled Item 3.6 c on page 412 of the agenda from September 24th 2024: Permit stacked townhouses up to four storeys in height along all streets classified as Neighbourhood Connectors:

Someone recently posted in the Piccadilly Neighbourhood Facebook group regarding the changes to stacked townhouses on Neighbourhood Connectors streets. I wasn't aware of the changes, but as I looked into the proposed changes I was happy to see that the changes included more opportunities for first time home buyers to purchase a home.

I am in my mid-30's, and I have multiple friends who are dual income, either no kids or one kid, who have not been able to enter the housing market due to the affordability crisis. In my own story, I got very lucky to purchase a small home in 2014 which more than doubled in price when I sold it in 2021. That's right, in just 7 years the price more than doubled (and wages have comparatively stayed stagnant). This is completely unsustainable and Millennials and Gen Z are being left behind.

The post in the group was very alarmist, and I was very proud to see almost all the responses to be in favour of the proposed changes. 9 people commented, 8 were for the changes and the last one was proposing a meeting to discuss for the Woodfield group.

In the Old North group, Sam Trosow also posted about the proposed changes. There were over 150 comments. I didn't read them all but the majority appeared to me to also be in favour.

What this looks like to me is most neighbours in heritage districts like Old North or Piccadilly see the housing crisis as indeed a crisis that needs structural changes to help more homes built faster. The main pushback tends to be NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard) or not wanting to spoil the architecture of a particular street.

While personally I would like to see more drastic structural changes that would stop housing from being a tool for investment, I understand that is outside of the scope of this particular update and I, along with dozens of neighbours on Facebook, am for the proposed changes.

LC

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Lisa Cardinal (she/her)