

From: David Aldred
Sent: Saturday, September 21, 2024 7:53 PM
To: Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>
Cc: Trosow, Sam <strosow@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposal to permit 4-storey stacked townhouses on neighbourhood connector streets

To London City Council,

We are writing to express our opposition to the proposed recommendation to allow 4-storey stacked townhouses as a matter of right on neighbourhood connector streets. We give our consent for our letter to be in the public agenda of the September 24, 2024 Council Meeting.

We feel it self-evident that the lack of consultation with and notice to those communities affected by this proposal by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Planning and Environment Committee are in themselves adequate reasons to oppose it. Given this sorry state of affairs, however, we must note that London is fortunate to have an enviable number of attractive and desirable "livable" residential corridors and neighbourhoods along many portions of these streets, and it is disheartening that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Planning and Environment Committee do not acknowledge that this. It is our hope, however, that the will of Councillors who are more closely connected to these neighbourhoods will prevail.

In short, the hasty approval by the Committee fails to acknowledge not only the potential disruption and devaluation of neighbourhood attributes wrought by one-size-fits-all planning policies, but also the facts that (1) these policies will not improve the size of the city's housing stock in relation to its growth in population, (2) will not reduce the cost of home ownership or rentals, and (3) will increase congestion on residential streets. There are ample areas in the city where higher density housing is already a norm, and there are also areas along *some portions* of neighbourhood connector streets where modest densification could be appropriate—but it brings no value to the people of London to damage the quality of neighbourhoods where densification would be inappropriate and disruptive. It strikes us that compromising existing policies in such a thoughtless manner in exchange for housing funds from other levels of government may possibly bring some political benefit to the Mayor, but it will not add any perceptible (or likely any imperceptible) benefit to the lives of the city's residents.

In closing, we wish to thank Mr. Trosow for bringing this proposal to the attention of the residents of Ward 6.

Sincerely,
David Aldred,
Lisa Turner