

From: bill brock
Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 7:26 PM
To: City of London, Mayor <mayor@london.ca>; Morgan, Josh <joshmorgan@london.ca>; Livingstone, Lynne <livings@London.ca>; Saunders, Cathy <csaunder@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Mayor letter affordable housing

Can go on next Council Agenda referring this committee report

Your Worship Ed Holder;
Josh Morgan; budget chair
Lynne Livingstone, City Manager
Cathy Saunders, City Clerk

Re: Letter to Community and Protective Services Committee from Mayor (undated)

This is a serious matter; as indicated in the 2021 City State of the Union address by the Mayor.

The urgency of this issue deserves quick and immediate action.

In less than 6 minutes a motion was made to do so (sort of).

You can't take 3000 units in 20 years; reduce to 10 and now 5 without setting priorities. It cannot be business as usual.

When I questioned this issue of crisis and green bins J. Stanford; project manager clearly stated "We can do both! No we can't!

When city declared a poverty crisis one of the first recommendations was to do those things that don't cost money was a real eye opener!

I spoke with budget chair about money taken from reserves and gas tax to build a new playground in Kiwanis Park (south). No response to justify using these funds! (note doesn't affect budget).

History will show that a person dying on Oxford street in an illegal housing operation was not a surprise but known by everybody in civic gov't. (police, fire, social services, councilors and staff). The 41M provided by other levels of gov't. for fixing up affordable units of which many are in questionable condition was just awarded to city! This condition has been tolerated for many years!

Some 10 years ago City Senior Planner Greg Barrett; when questioned about the cost of rebirth of downtown was council problem not staff. Today; as Council proceeds the staff (not experts) but do as Councilor directs.

The action should be Council led by the following:

Set aside "nice to haves and some long term visions "with an immediate revising budget with trade offs to truly reflect action on this need.

The 4 year budget process must be altered. You must put all your efforts to this and remove standards (more costly) . Councilors must walk the talk and not push other levels to anti up. Take charge now.

Trade offs need to start right now!

As a side note , I am astonished that such a major issue appears

before a committee by the Mayor. If there ever was a need to grandstand was this!

Holding your feet to fire if you continue to do business as usual.

PLEASE TAKE CHARGE NOW! This isn't just another staff report to a future meeting!

Issue affects everything!

Bill Brock