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CANADA

11 June 2021

Members and Chair Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

Strategy for Core Area Land and Vacant Buildings

Dear Colleagues,

During his 2021 State of the City address, Mayor Holder set a goal for our city: *to achieve functional zero for chronic homelessness in London within five years through the creation of 3,000 new affordable housing units.* This is a bold goal and a necessary one and we, as City Council, must do all we can to ensure its success.

In addition, we have seen the many challenges faced by our core areas in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic. City Council has made substantial investments in these areas to help with their recovery.

To achieve success with both issues – 3,000 new affordable housing units plus core area recovery - will require bold thinking. We must ensure that we explore all options and all resources at our disposal, be that land ready for development as well as buildings available to be repurposed.

Therefore, I am seeking support of the following motion:

That the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to report back on a proposed strategy that sets out potential tools that may assist in reducing core area land and building vacancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Cassidy
Councillor, Ward 5