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Sent: Sunday, May 28, 2023 11:58 AM

To: SPPC <sppc@london.ca>

Cc: Woolsey, Heather

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Added Agenda - SPPC MTG - May 30 - Item # 2.2 - Core Area Land & Building Vacancy Reduction Strategy .

Please accept this submission as “ Added Agenda “ for Council’s consideration for the upcoming May 30 SPPC MTG under agenda item # 2.2 – Core Area Land & Building Vacancy Reduction Strategy .

Mayor Morgan (Chair) – members of Council , please consider the following input and recommendation with respect to this report from staff ;

- This report should also be linked to the add 47000 new housing units by 2031 as was “ echoed “ in the 5 year CIP program report updates presented to Council last week . That said , the grants & incentive programs addressed in today’s report should be considered City Wide and not the restricted to just the core area . Example – If we have a Grade C- Commercial Building in Byron or Hyde Park that is mostly vacant and offers excellent Architectural prospects to residential conversion - have at it. Housing is housing right ?
- The City of London’s current CIP programs are already challenging tax payer affordability averaging \$25 Million per year over 2018-2023 YTD. These incentives are already Core Area and \$\$ Development Charges 10 year Grant recycling centric and to date have offered very little in return on investment for affordable housing and have mostly benefited the development community. Why add another layer of incentives that provide housing units that 50 % of Londoners can neither afford to buy (condo) or rent ? I can’t continue to support brownfield cleanups + waived DC Charges + new grants & incentives with no limits for another 5 years or this 2023 – 2028 budget cycle. OTHER CITIES HAVE LIMITS.
- I find it shocking that this staff report asks for your immediate consent to move forward with developing business cases to bury in the 2023 – 2028 multi-year budget BEFORE reaching out to the Public on this new program to clearly define both the Costs and Benefits of this program to the average taxpayer well before the Budget being tabled . WE do this for all new programs now (report direct to budget) , and it shuts out meaningful taxpayer feedback . There is zero mention anywhere in the report tabled today of any consultation with the public , only Realtors – Developers , Urban League and other City Staff references.

Recommendation ;

- That City of London staff leading this initiative be asked to take this through the Public Meeting process before any business cases are fully developed for the upcoming budget cycle. This should not be restricted to a shut off time of June 12th 2023 in Get Involved London as per the CIP report last week suggested .

THXS – Chris Butler – 863 Waterloo St