

My name is Bill Wootton and I own one of the 22 town homes on Marilyn Dr., directly across the street from the Parkview motel.

The purpose of my email is to register my opposition to the zoning change to 172 Woolwich which is required in order to convert the Parkview to supportive housing for the homeless with mental health and addiction issues. On October 22nd a Petition was submitted prior to the October 26, 2021 council meeting. The petition contained 219 signatures. All 219 signatories live or work within 200 meters of the Parkview Motel. Amongst security and safety concerns the Petition notes that the conversion of the Parkview Motel does not fit into the City's development plan. A copy of the Petition is attached for your reference.

The community surrounding the Parkview is high density residential. There are approximately 532 residences within 300 meters of Parkview. There are 40 residences within 30 meters of Parkview. The vast majority of residents within 300 meters of Parkview are seniors. Many in their seventies and eighties and many with mobility issues relying on walkers, canes and scooters to get around. The Parkview is also 200 meters from the busiest children's playground in Guelph, 200 meters from the Evergreen Centre, a large seniors community centre and 100 meters from a beer store. In order to get to the Evergreen the seniors have to use the one sidewalk on Marilyn Drive passing by the Parkview. Many seniors have expressed a fear for their safety if this project should go through.

There are no examples where this type of housing exists in a high density residential area. Let alone, a high density residential area made up mainly of vulnerable senior citizens. These types of facilities are located in commercial or industrial areas. The Kindle project in Guelph that is currently under consideration for this type of housing is located in a light industrial area. Our community is being used as guinea pigs in this reckless experiment.

In an online interview between the mayor and Gail Hoekstra, Ms. Hoekstra mentioned Lucy's Place in Barrie as a success story for this model. She mentioned that the neighbourhood residents were resisting having Lucy's as neighbours at the beginning but are now supportive. To find out more about this type of facility I went to Barrie and spent three hours in the area gathering data and speaking with Lucy's Place closest neighbours. First of all, this facility is located in the middle of a commercial area. There are only 25 residences within 300 meters of Lucy's and one residence within 30 meters. The location is the polar opposite of Parkview. I spoke with three of Lucy's closest neighbours (all businesses as there are no residences close by). They are not happy! When I asked the owner of a car repair shop if he was having any issues with Lucy's his first response was "it's a nightmare". He stated that he has to clean up drug paraphernalia behind his shop every morning, constant police and ambulance presence, he pointed to a street corner and stated "That is where they meet their drug dealer". The others I spoke with had similar complaints. On September 14, 2020, a resident of Lucy's Place was charged with arson for setting fire to his unit. One of my neighbours had a face-to-face meeting with the Director of Health at Bridges, Cambridge, a facility in a commercial area, the same model that Ms. Hoekstra wishes for the Parkview. The Director is familiar with the

location of the Parkview. He stated that the Parkview, with its' close proximity to a residential neighbourhood made it completely unsuitable for the proposed use.

The make-up of the Parkview would make it near impossible to provide proper security and the residents would be free to come and go as they please. Keep in mind that many of the 32 residents are drug addicts and will continue to use illicit drugs. Amongst the many questions that Ms. Hoekstra refuses to answer is where are the users getting their drugs and how are they paying for them. We all know that they will be getting them from drug dealers. The clock garden would make a discreet area to conduct their business. This has been a pattern for Ms. Hoekstra since the beginning, when we found out about the project from a newspaper article. She has made it quite clear that she couldn't care less about the concerns of the community. She has continued to ignore any of our concerns, won't answer any of the "tough" questions and has at times misled our community. As a result, she has zero credibility with our community and anything she says is taken with a grain of salt.

I would like to close by stating that nobody in this neighbourhood has ever stated that they oppose helping the less fortunate. All we hear from the supporters of this project (very few who actually live in the neighbourhood) is the need for this type of facility. Our opposition to the project is not based upon a need, it is based upon the location. I can't think of a less suitable location for this type of facility. This is not an all-or-nothing deal. Guelph is a big city, I am sure there are more suitable locations.

Thank you
Bill Wootton

