

Re: A-26/21 60 Ontario Street

Dear Members of the City of Guelph Committee of Adjustment, Applicants and Delegates.

I am writing in support of this project. I support the adaptive reuse of existing buildings, rather than having them torn down and replaced. The destruction of serviceable buildings is a waste of resources. However, the preservation of these buildings requires an economy that supports them. We need to allow small businesses to start up without the unintended consequences of “one size fits all” regulations.

These businesses seem to be designed to serve the local community. The area surrounding this location is fairly dense. There are thousands of residents within a 10-minute walk and this number will grow in coming years. I think that most of these people would walk more, if they had somewhere to walk TO. When people have a destination in the neighbourhood it enhances other existing or future businesses nearby. The conversion of this property from a specialty auto service that faced outwards to a wider area, to services that face towards the neighbourhood enhances the community, and should be encouraged.

We have to recognize that not all of us can walk, or bike, so some accommodation should be made to provide equitable access to all. Provision for some parking should be made, whether on the property, or on the road allowance for disabled, owner/operators, or deliveries.

Thanks for your time,
Scott Frederick