

To:  
Mayor Guthrie,  
Councillors, and  
Katie Nasswetter

RE:  
Proposed Zoning  
By-Law Amendment  
– 65 Delhi Street

Date:  
May 7, 2021

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Councillors,

**The Guelph & Wellington Task Force for Poverty Elimination supports the Zoning By-Law Amendment that would allow the County of Wellington to create an up to 36-unit transitional housing project at 65 Delhi Street.**

Housing is one of the biggest factors that can impact someone's health and wellbeing. Ensuring people have access to quality housing that is safe, stable, accessible and affordable promotes positive health outcomes, encourages social inclusion, supports participation in education and employment, and reduces public costs associated with healthcare and emergency services.

Our whole community benefits when people have housing that meets their needs and yet there are at least 131 individuals experiencing homelessness in our community<sup>i</sup>. With a low vacancy rate (2.1%<sup>ii</sup>) and little to no deeply affordable housing options available, challenges for finding and maintaining housing are magnified for individuals experiencing homelessness with complex needs as many require support.

To address this, our community has a plan to end homelessness by 2023. Creating housing with supports is an essential part of this plan and the proposed project at 65 Delhi Street will help to make that possible.

Creating transitional housing for individuals experiencing homelessness will support a happier, healthier and stronger community. The proposed development is following best practice in finding a location that is in close proximity to public transit, neighbourhood amenities, and community-based services both in the immediate neighbourhood and nearby in the downtown core.

Ending homelessness in our community is possible, but we need to meet our critical need for housing. The proposed development at 65 Delhi Street will help to meet this need and contribute to ending homelessness for individuals with the greatest depth of need in our community.

Sincerely,



Dominica McPherson  
Poverty Task Force Coordinator

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<sup>i</sup> County of Wellington By-Name List (March 2021)

<sup>ii</sup> Source: [CMHC Rental Market Survey \(2020\)](#)