



St. Andrew's
G U E L P H

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May 5, 2021

Dear Mayor Guthrie and City Councillors,

My name is The Rev. John Borthwick, minister of St. Andrew's Guelph and long-time champion of ending homelessness, and I am writing in support of the zoning by-law amendment for transitional housing to be located at **65 Delhi St.**

Our community has a plan to end homelessness by 2023. Creating transitional housing for those who need it most is an essential part of making this happen. As part of a range of housing options, transitional housing is a solution that will provide the structure and support needed to improve people's lives, increase health and wellbeing, and support a stronger community overall. When everyone in our community has a safe and affordable place to call home our whole community benefits.

I have sat in too many rooms and around too many tables in this City talking about strategies to end homelessness in the coming years. It isn't a matter of not knowing what needs to be done – we have heard from so many experts and persons with lived experience and I can say without reservation that we know what we need in our City to end homelessness. Transitional housing is one answer to address the complex needs of our citizens who find housing challenging. It is time to ACT. Each project that is approved throughout our city gets us towards a goal – not to expand our pride as a city but to transform the lives of our citizens who need our support and care now more than ever.

I believe that everyone should have a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home, and access to supports to make that possible. I encourage City Council to approve this amendment and help put an end to homelessness in our community.

Thank you,

Rev. John Borthwick
Minister | St. Andrew's Guelph