

**From:** [Ian Digby](#)  
**To:** [Councillors & Mayor](#); [Clerks](#)  
**Subject:** No Strong Mayor Powers in Guelph  
**Date:** Friday, June 23, 2023 8:18:32 AM

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Dear Mayor Guthrie and City Counselors,

I am very concerned about the possibility of Strong Mayor powers coming to Guelph. This is an attack on democracy and the balance of decision making powers that have been crafted over decades.

Council has a critical role to listen to and represent a wide perspective of opinions and constituents. Council would be neutered by concentrating so many critical decisions in one individual/office - hiring key roles, formulating the budget, creating committees, veto powers. It's a sham to pretend Strong Mayor powers will support affordable housing development.

Please make a strong and clear statement that Guelph City Council unequivocally rejects Strong Mayor powers. This is a dangerous path to follow and will cause untold damage to our democracy and civic institutions for decades to come.

Sincerely,

Ian Digby

