



Building homes. Building community.

October 4, 2024

Guelph City Council
1 Carden Street
Guelph, ON
N1H 3A1

Dear Council and Staff,

On behalf of Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington (Habitat GW) I would like to extend our appreciation to City Staff and Council, for the detailed summary of actions proposed within the Draft Housing Affordability Strategy.

We were pleased to read the in-depth exploration of projected housing needs in the City, by unit type, tenure and varying levels of affordability. It is important for us all to move forward with a shared understanding of the true housing needs facing the City – today and tomorrow – such that together, we might find shared solutions.

We would further like to commend the City on the intention to leverage City owned lands to catalyze new affordable housing through the Affordable Housing Demonstration Project. It appears to be a responsible, measured approach, with an emphasis towards action.

Habitat for Humanity builds affordable housing and serves families in core housing need. Over our 30+ years building homes in Guelph and Wellington County, we have recognized the need – and the opportunity we have – to provide a more balanced array of housing solutions in any given project, or any given community. We look forward to working with other groups within our community to bring forward for consideration, an aggregate solution to give life to the recommendations within the strategy.

Habitat GW would like to congratulate staff and Council for the work that has gone into this draft, and for an Action Plan that demonstrates sincere consultation and thoughtful consideration of feedback received.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Deska".

Ryan Deska
Director, Community Engagement and Development
Habitat for Humanity Guelph Wellington