

Re: 93 Victoria Rd. N. who is seeking permission to convert the 16-unit building into 31 units

December 5, 2024

To whom it may concern,

Please accept my written submission regarding the owner of 493 Victoria Rd. N. who is seeking permission to convert the 16-unit building into 31 units.

I urge you to prioritize the discussion of the renoviction bylaw that was postponed earlier this year. Could using what Toronto has done be a blueprint and speed this process along? They have used many mechanisms that hit the property owner in the wallet, which makes a lot of sense to me.

I have a family member who lives in this building and he along with some other tenants have tight budgets. Unfortunately, my family member lost his job last December and has not been able to find work since. He is almost 60 years old. His savings have been used up and now he is relying on the social safety net with our family filling in the financial gaps. Our main priority as a family is keeping him in his apartment. The alternatives are...well, there are not any really. Homelessness feels like a real threat as it is without this new concern of him potentially being renovicted and/or having a high rent payment.

He, like some tenants in the building, are at the edge of a cliff in their daily lives, financially speaking. With the added risk of losing their homes due to what is shaping up to be a renoviction, it is mind boggling to think about what our family will need to do to support him, let alone anyone that lives there who does not have a support system. I am also concerned for the families that live there; one bedroom apartments will not be suitable for them.

Again, I urge council to prioritize the discussion of the renoviction bylaw that was postponed earlier this year and not let this proposal move forward without it in place.

Thank you for hearing the community out on this. We need to do everything we can to prevent more people slipping into homelessness and support vulnerable families.

Sincerely,

Barbara Freuler



Guelph, ON