

Subject: Concerns Regarding Development Impact on Historic Neighborhood and Street Parking

Dear Mayor Guthrie and City Councillors,

I am writing to share my concerns about the proposed development in on 8 Mitchell St/Arthur St North. While I understand the developers are meeting all necessary Provincial and City of Guelph requirements, I urge you to consider the potential impacts of this development on the surrounding historic neighborhood, which includes several century-old homes, some of which on the same block as the proposed development that are as old as Canada.

These homes not only contribute to the neighborhood's historic and architectural character, but they also face unique challenges. Notably, two duplexes that are 150 years old (4 families) and two brick houses (2 families) that are over 100 years old do not have driveways and have always relied on street parking. Also, I've spoken with other neighbours in multi unit houses on Arthur street that rely on street parking since the on site parking lot is already at capacity. A development of this size risks exacerbating the already limited parking availability in the area, which is critical for both residents and visitors.

While development is important for growth, I respectfully request that City Council consider measures to address these concerns. This might include ensuring adequate parking solutions for both new and existing residents, conducting thorough impact assessments, and requiring plans to mitigate risks to this historic area.

Additionally, this neighborhood includes several mature trees, some over 50 years old, that are slated for removal as part of the development. While this may be permitted by City of Guelph bylaws due to the lot size, these trees provide irreplaceable environmental and aesthetic value, contributing to the neighborhood's identity, shade, and ecosystem. Removing them could significantly alter the character of the area and diminish its appeal, and even with dutiful replanting by the developers any new plantings won't come close to replacing the existing mature trees during our lifetimes.

Thank you for your attention to these issues. Your thoughtful consideration will help balance development with the preservation of our city's heritage and livability.

Sincerely,

Bryan Griffin