

I am writing to voice my frustration, anger and opposition to the proposed changes to 120 Huron.

Yet another zero barrier, extreme harm reduction project has been dumped into the lap of citizens in the middle of a pandemic; no basic, detailed information provided and we're supposed to just accept it going into the city/council approval pipeline with no consideration for anyone affected by it.

It's bad enough our ward councillors (Bell & Gibson) develop zero barrier projects (Container homes, tiny homes zoning, etc.) in secret, ignore residents' legitimate health/safety concerns, ghost anyone who disagrees, then try to push them through Council. Now, the homeless/harm reduction alliance (HHRA) they work with are retroactively adding zero barrier elements to already approved/zoned projects. The only time stakeholders who don't align with their views & general citizens hear about them is when they have their hand out, or are forced to publicly go through City/Council.

The Ward is a diverse area with marginalized, working & middle class residents, in addition to the gentrifying elements. All will be negatively affected by this. A google search will show you what this philosophy, run by religious & radical activists, has done to communities from Vancouver to Toronto. [SupportiveHousing Vancouver](#)

We've already seen the destruction of the downtown Core by a large minority of homeless drug users (by no means all) who are the main recipients of zero barrier projects like this, because their behaviours make them unable to access available housing. Threshold Homes, the groups contracted to provide "support" (we have no idea what that means, BTW) have been involved with House of Friendship & the Bridges. Both facilities have drug dealing, drug use, violence, garbage, needles, bike chop shops, human trafficking, etc. in and around their properties. They have been the subject of neighbourhood complaints for over a decade.

The philosophy of zero barrier, one pillar harm reduction was never, ever democratically adopted by the City of Guelph. It was forced on the community by a group of religious, radical social activists with activist Councillor allies who just implement projects with no regard for anyone outside their groups. Other approaches that include all of the community, like the 4 pillar strategy, have been totally ignored.

We are now at the point where our City has been hijacked & turned into a homeless addiction hub that is now attracting people from outside the city. We are in a negative feedback loop with no way out—because there is no prevention, no secular rehab, no democratic process. I have spoken to dozens of people in the Ward and the Core who are NOT NIMBY, but who support the 4 pillar, secular approach, which includes community safety for everyone.

Projects like this contribute to the decline of the City, and are the wedge that drives the middle & working class, other marginalized (particularly disabled) & the creative class out of neighbourhoods and out of the city itself.

This project should never be received by Council until there is a public input framework in place, accurate, honest information provided about what this actually is, and the zoning issue is dealt with separately, as it involves a new sub-category creation that applies to the city as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration

jj salmon Ward one resident