From:

To: Mather, Maddison; Lucas Cleveland

Subject: Delegation - RE: Concerns Regarding 310 Division Street Acquisition

Date: Tuesday, December 5, 2023 9:06:47 AM

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David Battersby



Northumberland County Council 555 Courthouse Road Cobourg, ON K9A 5J6

Dear Members of Northumberland County Council,

RE: Concerns Regarding 310 Division Street Acquisition

As I am unable to attend virtually or in person, I am writing to express my deep concerns about the recent proposal to acquire 310 Division Street for the purpose of addressing the urgent local need for housing and shelter services and ask that these concerns be referenced during your meeting.

While I understand the importance of providing support to vulnerable populations, the decisions being made behind desks appear to have significant consequences for a substantial portion of Cobourg's population, and I believe it is crucial for these concerns to be brought to your attention.

My primary concern revolves around the lack of consultation with homeowners and business owners in the immediate vicinity. It is disheartening to witness decisions being made that will impact the neighborhood without involving those who are directly affected. Homeowners, who form a critical part of the tax base, and local businesses should have been consulted in a meaningful way.

The proposed acquisition of 310 Division Street is particularly troubling given the current challenges faced by our downtown core. Increased crime rates, violence, garbage, loitering in business entryways, and the presence of drug paraphernalia are issues that are already affecting the well-being of our community. Accelerating such changes without proper consultation raises concerns about the accelerated degradation of the downtown core in Cobourg.

I understand the urgency of addressing homelessness, but it is equally important to consider the impact on the existing community. This decision should be a conversation, not a directive. I urge the Council to ensure that the voices of homeowners and business owners are heard and that their concerns are given due consideration in this significant decision-making process.

Moreover, as a concerned member of the community, I would appreciate transparency regarding the consultation process, and how the Council plans to address the valid concerns raised by residents directly impacted by this decision.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that the Council will consider the broader implications of this decision and work towards a solution that benefits everyone involved while preserving the well-being of Cobourg's downtown.

Sincerely,	
David Battersby	

David Battersby