

From: chris potje <
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 1:47 PM
To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>
Subject: Backyard Houses Suggestions

I support the idea of intensification, including backyard houses, but not when it significantly effects current residents of neighbouring dwellings.

Some suggestions to consider:

- only bungalow height, to prevent new backyard dwellings invading the privacy of existing neighbours
- strong consideration for neighbouring mature trees that may be affected by building backyard houses
- significant consideration in general of the effect of loss of privacy on neighbouring properties
- mandatory notice given to neighbours with enough time for neighbours to respond to the proposal to build backyard houses

Thank you,
Chris Potje

From: Zach Greenwald <
Sent: Monday, October 4, 2021 7:13 PM
To: cityclerks <cityclerks@barrie.ca>
Subject: Garden Suite Concerns - FTHB

Hi Mayor Lehman and respected Councillors,

I wanted to reach out and express my concerns with the proposed changes to the garden suite by-law. I listened in to the Planning Committee on the 21stand found the tone and views towards garden suites to be quite negative.

To give you some background, I am a new resident in Ward 2 and a first-time homeowner. My fiancé and I purchased our first home after years of saving while renting in Toronto. We are loving Barrie and everything it has to offer (thank you for all your hard work)! When we made the move to Barrie we were drawn in by the ability to add a garden suite to our property so we could rent it out, provide additional housing to the community, and benefit from the additional income which we would put toward our mortgage payments (making housing more affordable for us the owner while adding supply to the market...a win-win).

While I get and agree that some of the initial garden suite regulations were too permissible, I think the proposed changes are going too far in the opposite direction. As it stands, there are only so many properties in Barrie that would qualify for a garden suite given the new setback requirements of 7M and it would essentially end the program. A 3M should be plenty, no? To go above that and add a 300M radius rule would simply end the garden suite program completely. I can't imagine there are many properties left that are outside of 900 feet of another garden suite and would qualify given the new proposed setbacks. This rule would also benefit first movers and would put the developers down the road from me ahead of me since they jumped on the opportunity several months ago. I don't see how it's fair to treat some differently than others simply because they got in first.

Without going on too long I want to make a few points:

1. I think it is important that changes are made to the program but it's important we don't cannibalize the program by going too far in the opposite direction. In my opinion, the 300M radius and 7M setback are far too restrictive. It's the same as banning garden suites entirely.
2. Garden suites help tackle the affordability crisis for both the homeowner (I need to bring in additional income on a property to make it affordable for me) and renters (granted rents are still high but the solution is more supply, not less).
3. It's not only rich developers that are looking to add garden suites to properties. I am an FTHB and looking to live in the home while bringing in additional income through a garden suite.
4. We mustn't lose focus on the fact that we are in a **housing crisis**. I am personally coming from a renting position and I know how hard it is out there to find affordable housing. This is a crisis and comparing it to tattoo parlors and payday loans is disrespectful to those looking to find a roof over their head. We simply need more supply and the stress people are under is immense. We must look out for future generations and sympathize with their situation. We need more supply and if someone had an 8000sqft lot it is in society's best interest (IMO) to better utilize that land.

I hope this email brings you a slightly different perspective on garden suites and you take my opinion into account at today's meeting. I want to thank you for your service to the community and I wish you all the best.

Thank you,

Zach Greenwald

Monday Oct 4, 2021

Mayor Lehman, & Members of Council

I am here before you this evening to show support for amendments being put forward by Staff and Council in the hopes these changes will create more affordable units and less contentious issues for impacted neighbourhoods.

This is a good start with more to be done. We need to do better, such as minimum separation between locations or the number of units per ward and number of occupants as per the Ontario Building Code.

Granville, William, Burton, Cumberland, Oren, Roslyn, Puget, Peel, Wellington, Codrington, Rodney, Caroline, Marcus, Alfred....what do all of these names have in common? Detached Accessory Dwellings being built, with-out consideration for our existing communities.

We have the ability to make strong building, planning, demolition, urban design guidelines, inspections and oversight from start to finish through our permitting process. So far, we have not witnessed this as residents. As of this evening another landlord (with a Detached Accessory Dwelling – currently under construction) has completely dug up the front lawn and driveway to put in infrastructure leaving a wide-open trench all across the property with no fencing/taping or signage advising Danger.

Currently we are allowing affordable, safe, healthy homes in our communities to be demolished to make way for new primary homes and Detached Accessory Units. People are being displaced at an alarming rate.

This is not sustainable environmentally, nor is this affordable.

We are impacting our landfill & tree canopy, when we should be repurposing, instead of tearing down.

We should be building more rental units such as 6 or 8 story buildings with a mix of 1,2,3, and 4 bedrooms. This built form brings a larger number of units to market with-out totally disrupting & disrespecting our existing established residential communities. Especially in Historic Neighbourhoods

Barrie City Councils Strategic Plans include:

- Fostering a Safe and Healthy City
- Grow Responsibly
- Build a Greener Barrie – Benefits of Trees
 - Air conditioning
 - Insulation
 - Environmental stress relief
 - Oxygen
 - Noise mitigation
 - Water purification
 - Carbon dioxide removal
 - Air purification
 - Asthma relief
 - Privacy
 - Ornamental
 - Increase in property value
 - Wildlife food & habitat
- Get more affordable housing Built
- Continue supporting community partners such as Redwood Park and Habitat for Humanity, and the County of Simcoe
- Public Health and Safety – Foster safe and healthy communities
- Creating safer streets

Let's work together to find solutions that will create affordable housing.

Thank you for your time.

Regards,
Terry Forrester