



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 25, 2020

To: Council

From: Danielle Manton, City Clerk

Re: Items further to the August 125, 2020 Special Council Agenda

1. Dawn Joseph, re: Public Meeting A – 15 Clover Avenue, Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendments – 10184217 Canada Corporation (Hunain Siddiqui)
2. Charles van der Meulen, re: Public Meeting A – 15 Clover Avenue, Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendments – 10184217 Canada Corporation (Hunain Siddiqui)
3. Dominique Malogorski, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
4. Kayla Andrade, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
5. Sandy Falkiner, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
6. Dino Virgo, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
7. Zoe Bakker, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge

Correspondence

1. Kerry Rush, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
2. Bailey Gladwin, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
3. Shannon Mastaler, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
4. Cheryl and James Gregory, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
5. Andrea Ireland, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
6. Leanne Love, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
7. Adam Love, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
8. Susan Bridges, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
9. Cinnamon Cantwell, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
10. Kelly Potocky, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
11. Robert and Donna Sprenger, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
12. Julie Currie, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
13. Lisa Maitland-Charles, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
14. Peter Dalton, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
15. Pamela Kent, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
16. David Kivell, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge

17. Terra Dittenhoffer, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
18. Kim Herbert, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
19. Prakash Venkataraman, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
20. Sherri Roy, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
21. Sue Woznuk, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
22. Dominique Malogorski, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
23. Cole Jensen, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
24. Ravi Peddamudium and Mary Alice Mesa, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
25. Christine Brennan, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
26. Terra Almeida, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
27. Paul van Heeswyk, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
28. Melinda Kregar, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
29. Stephanie Pye, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
30. Alison Thomas, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
31. Jeremy and Elizabeth Clark, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
32. Kelly Potocky, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge

33. Howard & Vicki McPhail, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
34. Pat Stager, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
35. Tammy Yetman, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
36. Dominic Tantalo, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
37. Paula Surdin, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
38. William Howarth, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
39. Laurie and Craig Turner, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
40. Stefano Almeida, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
41. Sara Byma, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
42. Linda Burnside, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
43. Sharon Forbes, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
44. Jaimey Andrade, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
45. Allison Preston, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
46. Erin Dej, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
47. Janelle McGlashan & Roger Leavitt, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
48. Jennifer Smith, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge

49. Brad Boomer, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
50. Sam and Emma Livesey, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
51. Janelle McGlashan and Roger Leavitt, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
52. Susan Preston, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
53. Joe Hall, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
54. Dennis Gouveia, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
55. Nellie Cabral Melo, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
56. Rick Faulkner, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
57. Kayla Andrade and Jenn Roswell, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
58. Joyce Buell, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
59. Anonymous, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
60. Anonymous, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
61. Anonymous, re: item 5, Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park – Citizens for Cambridge
62. Scott McGowan, Public Meeting A – 15 Clover Avenue, Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendments – 10184217 Canada Corporation (Hunain Siddiqui)
63. Dawn & Frank Joseph, Public Meeting A – 15 Clover Avenue, Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendments – 10184217 Canada Corporation (Hunain Siddiqui)
64. Rob Zachary, Public Meeting A – 15 Clover Avenue, Official Plan & Zoning By-law Amendments – 10184217 Canada Corporation (Hunain Siddiqui)

I wanted to write and give my input on the proposed modular housing in Churchill park, as a resident of Cambridge, who literally lives down the road near the proposed site at Christopher/Meyers. Please include my e-mail in the agenda package.

Affordable housing is fine - and much needed.

However, who will guarantee there won't be negative impacts to the park and families that visit there? Or the people who work in the plaza, many of them youths. Will the Mayor or Councillors guarantee no illicit activity will stem from these modular units?

Churchill Park is a popular park for people to take their children, especially during the warm months to enjoy the splash pad. Kids soccer and baseball practices/games are held there. Parents shouldn't need to worry about taking their kids to the splash pad or for their sports games, and the potential for needles or trash that poses a risk to their kids and pets.

What about the homes on Meyers Road whose backyards back onto the forest that goes down into Churchill park?

Cambridge and it's residents are suffering already. People and their families are running out of places they can feel safe and comfortable to take their families. How about working on the root cause of much homelessness in Cambridge, which is mental health and/or drug addiction.

Cambridge residents say NO to the proposed modular units - the location is unacceptable.

Kerry Rush

Good Evening,

I am reaching out to you directly, and requesting that this correspondence be included within the agenda package for the above noted report and corresponding proposal.

As a resident of Ward-6, this proposal deeply troubles me for several reasons of which I will outline below.

My largest and most major concern is a genuine concern for the wellbeing of not only my family, but other members of Ward-6 should this proposal be seen viable, and successfully commences.

Churchill Park is widely used as the name would presume, as a playground for young children and families. Moreso than ever, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, families are relying on this "safe space" to allow their children the opportunity to exercise and be children.

The use of this space does bring up another concern. As a contributing taxpayer, I am curious to know if this project were to commence how those residing in the immediate area are expected to utilize the outdoor spaces, and substantiate the services we pay under our taxes due to the municipality. This is presuming that a significant portion of the park will be rendered useless as the space will be consumed by the proposed "living pods".

Furthermore, as you may, or may not be aware, this current ward is already home to several road addresses of which fall within subsidized housing. I struggle to locate a zone in Cambridge with an existing subsidy structure with higher density of that present within this ward. I am interested to know why the population is not being spread out amongst wards within the city to allow the immediate economy the opportunity to flourish.

Lastly, I am proposing a crime analysis be completed should this be pushed through to the next stage, and the voices of the community go unheard as a result of lack of viable information. I was an individual who, growing up, relied on subsidized housing to stay warm and safe, and so I am not ignorant to the populous being that of a higher crime bracket. Given that a young man was shot and killed a mere block away from the proposed site, a crime analysis would ensure that the WRPS did its duty to serve and protect the members of the immediate area. This is under again a presumption that a higher and more consistent presence of correctional officers would be required based on the analysis results.

If it has not been made evidently clear in this e-mail made to your attention, I strongly oppose the commencement of the above noted proposal. The several reasons of which I have outlined above do not specifically indicate all of the individual concerns I have based on the information, or lack thereof provided.

Should you have any concerns or further questions, do not hesitate to reach out at the contact used to send this correspondence.

Regards,

Bailey Gladwin

A Resident of Ward 6

Dear Shannon Adshade,

PLEASE INCLUDE THIS LETTER IN THE UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING AUG 25. I am asking this is included in the agenda package.

Hello,

I have been made aware of an affordable housing proposal that has been proposed to be located at Churchill Park.

I am extremely opposed to this.

This location is a terrible choice for the following reasons:

1. That park is one of the nicest parks this side of Galt. It is where children play, and run and enjoy their childhood. Already we cannot take our kids to MOST OF THE AREAS in Galt and feel safe. I am worried constantly about my son picking up a needle. Now you want to take a family friendly park and invite drug users to live there? Could there be a WORSE LOCATION?

Solution: This should be done on the outskirts of town, in an industrial area where there are not families playing. Yes, we need affordable housing, but to actually invite more people who bring violence, abuse, drugs and alcohol into Galt and into a family park is just irresponsible. And a slap in the face for the hard working families of this community who are already losing their parks, trails and green spaces.

An industrial area can have public transit access. So, there is no excuse. Churchill Park is NOT close to grocery stores, pharmacies or anything else... So there is no reason to choose this location over an area on the outskirts that has access to transit.

****NOTE:** This will 100% evolve into TENT CITY. That is why it needs to be done AWAY from children, residences, the downtown core. It won't look so pretty like the rendering... and we all know that.

BOTH the Bridges and this affordable housing should be in an industrial area AWAY FROM PARKS, SCHOOLS, RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

2. The downtown businesses are SUFFERING! The resident and businesses who love Galt and trying very hard to rejuvenate the area and support the businesses but are met constantly with harassment, violence and it's scary. These poor businesses - they do not need any more obstacles after cover and the current drug problem.

Solution: Move the bridges and your affordable housing program AWAY from a DOWNTOWN CORE where families live, and businesses operate. Where honest people are trying to raise families and LIVE. The bridges is terrible planning, and this is even worse. BOTH the Bridges and this affordable housing should be in an industrial area AWAY FROM PARKS, SCHOOLS, RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

3. House prices and growth. Cambridge is quickly becoming known as a drug town. If you think that this wont deter new people coming, and deflate house prices you're wrong. Over time, we will suffer. Those who are home owners.

We need to protect Downtown Galt - it is the best part of Cambridge with the most potential... it's what attracts new homeowners and visitors. The bridges is already a massive problem and in a terrible location.

YOU CANNOT TRY TO FIX ONE PROBLEM BY CREATING ANOTHER. THAT'S WHAT THIS PLAN IS.

THE SOLUTION FOR THE DRUG/HOMELESS PROBLEM CANNOT BE AT THE COST OF THE LAW-FOLLOWING, TAX PAYING CITIZENS.

PLEASE GO BACK TO THE DRAWING BORD AND TRY TO FIND A PLAN THAT SAVES GALT... NOT MAKES IT WORSE.

Sincerely,


Shannon, concerned Galt resident.

It is with great dismay that I read the proposal to possibly use Churchill Park as a site for pod housing. I live on Sebas Court in one of the first homes built in Cambridge. This year it is 179 years old. It is just on the eastern outskirts of the park in question. I have resided in Cambridge for 13 years with great pride for my beautiful city. The past few years we have seen the city become the victim of petty criminals and increasing violence and unrest. We no longer patronize downtown businesses in Galt out of fear and having been accosted several times by young people demanding, not asking for money etc. Our vehicle was broken into and recently a call to the police at 5 a.m. to ask for help as 2 men were skulking on my property was dismissed and I was advised a report would not be logged. Our next door neighbour found a drunken intruder inside her home, on the second floor, late one evening. We are aware of many cases of property theft in our beautiful neighbourhood. Lawn furniture, decor, parcels and tools and bicycles are not safe anymore. I do not condone the principle of NIMBY but I also expect that city officials will undertake feasibility studies to ensure that such housing is compatible and cohesive with existing neighbourhoods and communities. We have already seen the graffiti, drug paraphernalia and trash that litters Churchill Park. The children's play structure has been set alight and repeatedly vandalized. I feel the proposed location is not suitable nor is it reasonable to expect this community to bear the brunt of the social issues that will undoubtedly arise. Churchill has a community centre, sports fields and is home to the annual Scottish festival. It is well used by dog walkers, young families and as a thoroughfare for the many students at the nearby schools adjacent to the park. Please reconsider the proposal for this location. Galt residents have already paid the biggest price in Cambridge, we cannot, and will not bear any more. Cheryl and James Gregory

Dear Councillor S. Adshade,

I am writing as I am deeply concerned to hear of the proposal for the “affordable” pod housing intended for the campground at Churchill park. As a resident in the area, and a parent, I am concerned for the impact this will have on the area, property values and safety. A feasibility study needs to occur! We already have homeless encampments by the river at the end of Meyers, and the area feels the sting with petty thefts in our yards and driveways of basically anything that isn’t nailed down. Please be our voice to ensure this proposal doesn’t get passed through without due diligence to the impact on our community.

Sincerely,

Andrea Ireland, 

*I would like my email to be included in the agenda package and used as public input on Tuesday August 25th, 2020 at 10 am during the Special Council Meeting. I hope the council does not support the idea of allowing Churchill Park to be considered as a potential site for the Alternative Housing Proposal.

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

It has come to my attention that there is a report for an alternative housing proposal at Churchill Park, Cambridge as part of the agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10 am, item 5. The report is asking the council for direction about whether staff would support working on this proposal using Churchill Park as a potential site.


I would like my email to be included in the agenda package and used as public input. I hope the council does not support the idea of allowing Churchill Park to be considered as a potential site. Please do not even entertain the idea.

I live in the neighbourhood just across Myers road. It's a tiny subdivision with just a few streets and many young families. Every evening my family walks along the paved path that goes around the neighbourhood and my young boys ride their bikes (or are pushed in their stroller). We stop at the ponds and explore through the forest. We love it and always feel safe and meet many new friends along the way. The idea of these pods being on the same path just across Myers road makes me uneasy. Will our path and neighbour still be a safe place for us to explore every evening? Will we still feel comfortable walking across Myers road, through the old RV campsite to make our way to the Churchill Park Splash Pad? I can't imagine we will.

Alternative affordable housing is an important initiative but this is not the place for it. Many people walk through this area to access Churchill park from our neighbourhood. The potential residents of these pods will not be staying in these tiny homes all day and night, and at this point it is impossible to know what threat they could possibly pose to the citizens in the nearby homes, parks, or schools. The risks seem too great to use a popular park and threway as a potential site. Cambridge has also adopted the Children's Charter of Rights and I feel like many of their rights will potentially be violated if this site is used for alternative housing.

The location of this proposal is crucial to its success and I strongly urge council to vote against using Churchill Park as a potential site and direct staff to propose appropriate, alternative locations. Thank you for your consideration and I hope you vote to protect our public parks and green spaces.

Regards,

Leanne Love, 

*I would like my email to be included in the agenda package and used as public input on Tuesday August 25th, 202 at 10 am during the Special Council Meeting. I hope the council does not support the idea of allowing Churchill Park to be considered as a potential site for the Alternative Housing Proposal.

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

I have become aware of a housing proposal being put forth to the City of Cambridge for Churchill Park. I felt it important to add my voice as early as possible around this subject as I believe it will critically impact the community in a negative way.

The proposal is looking at Churchill Park, specifically the South Eastern "camping" area of the park, for affordable housing. This area is located as a thoroughfare for families entering the park from Myers road, and is a main access point for hundreds of homes and families to the park. For example - my family, with two children under the age of 5, use this path daily to visit the park from the Birkenshaw Road community just to the south. In fact, this same community has a path that leads directly from a local park to this access way and directly past these proposed affordable homes. This location is also within 1km of two schools, and backs onto a local (and popular) Tim Hortons.

I believe our communities need to support our least privileged and vulnerable. To that end, I fully support the concept of affordable housing using shipping containers or other economical materials. What is of critical importance, however, is the location of these housing facilities. The probability of disruption to this area is high based on homes along this path, but even more-so when the homes are minimal in size. The location and construction of these homes is obviously meant for vulnerable sector individuals such as the homeless, those suffering from addiction, those going through recovery from addiction, or other related issues requiring an extreme approach to housing. These are not long term homes, these are not homes for extended family stay... these are for individuals with ideals and actions at odds with the local community you are attempting to house them in, in the heart of one of their community gathering locations none the less.

To be blunt - locating affordable housing on our local park, near the children of our community, our schools, and our neighbourhoods is a poor plan both for the community and the vulnerable individuals seeking shelter. You have a higher probability to expose our (and my) children to negative situations, but you also have the local community about to be up in arms over the strategy. If you choose a more

appropriate location the community will be more accepting and there will be less emotional burden on the residents you seek to house.

I appreciate your attention on the matter and hope the Council understands that pursuing a report on this strategy is a waste of budget and time - if we pick a more suitable location for the community and the individuals being housed it will lead to better overall outcomes for all.

Thank you,

Adam Love

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge;

It has come to my attention that a proposal has been made to place housing pods in the campground area of Churchill Park and will be on your agenda for the Council meeting on August 25, 2020.

Please allow me to tell you about my neighbourhood, the one where you plan to put these pods. My teen daughter attends Glenview Secondary School, before COVID- and hopefully again in the future, at lunch and after school, she and her friends will hike down the back pathways through Churchill Park, through the campground into the Tim Horton's plaza for lunches, treats and "teenage fun", your proposed pod community will be directly in the path of these high school students. The pathways are also used by Stewart Avenue Public School students to walk home to the community south of Myers Road, these students will also be in direct contact with your proposed pod community. Children as young as, 10 if not younger, will be in direct contact with your proposed site, many walking alone.

I'm sure you are well aware of the number of families that enjoy the park, it was my "selling point" when I moved to Cambridge from Brampton 12 years ago. Plenty of soccer games were played by my children here, parents lined the fields, cheering on their kids, we walked the pathways over the years, checked on the deer and the peacocks, let our dog splash in the creek on hot summers days, we have lined up at the Caboose in the plaza for ice cream and sipped hot chocolate from Tim's as we walked through the park in the fall and winter. As an amateur photographer, I wander the park alone especially in spring to get shots of the new life and late at night to get a shot of the moon in the open green fields, these are all things I enjoy because I have felt safe here on the south end of Cambridge. Just spend a couple of hours in the park and you will see many

people walking dogs, mom's with babies in buggies, this is a family park, your proposal compromises all of this.

The houses just east of the proposed site also has many seniors who purchased their homes in the 1950s, many of these seniors are ageing in place, alone, I worry for them. Increased car break-ins and home break-ins are known to happen near the site you propose to add here.

Your proposal will change this hidden gem area, the place of the Tour de Grande, the Scottish Festival, things we as a city take pride in, endless soccer games, family picnics and children free to come and go, your proposed community will no doubt bring about beggars who will harass the park goers for money, leave dangerous drug paraphernalia on the ground and create havoc as we already see in other parts of Cambridge and endanger our children's safety.

I strongly urge the Council to vote against this site, direct staff to propose several alternate locations and with input from the public. Should Council move ahead with this vote it will not be with public consent from this neighbourhood and Council will certainly feel the unrest of this community.

Please protect my neighbours, my neighbourhood, our green space, and vote against this site.

Cambridge Strong,

Susan Bridges

Please include this letter with agenda package regarding proposal of report 20-197 (CD) Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park.

I am voicing my objections to the proposal before Cambridge City Council to erect a housing project of Pods at the closed camping sites at Churchill Park in Cambridge, Ontario. This proposal is flawed and introduces significant and unnecessary risks to the children and youth that actively use Churchill park and also to the family-orientated neighbourhood surrounding the park.

First, Churchill Park is a designated space for recreation used by families and youth. Children play at the splash pad and playground equipment, walk on the trails, high school children use the path beside the proposed site daily to access the businesses beside Churchill park. The park contains playground equipment and much needed space for sports such as busy baseball fields. These fields, used by children of all ages, are overlooked by the proposed location for the Pods.

The report falsely states that the location of the proposed housing is distant from the areas used by children at the park. The location overlooks the baseball fields. The pathway the report cites as the way to access Duncan Macintosh Arena is directly through the playground equipment and an active splash pad. It is shocking that the close proximity to the children was so erroneously represented.

It is clear from the situation at the Bridges (crime, drug addicts, overflow into the surrounding community, discarded needles throughout the local areas, etc) that such housing projects unfortunately result in unintended consequences that have caused risk and injury to the community. Placing the Pods at Churchill Park will result in families no longer being able to use the park for the intended recreational purpose of the location. More children will be exposed to the dangers of used dirty needles, exposure to crime, etc that have been proven to happen at the Bridges.

Second, introducing such a housing project for these individuals at a Park is infringing on the rights of the community, specifically the families and children of the surrounding community as defined by the Children's Charter of Rights. The City of Cambridge has committed to the Children's Charter of Rights. This charter has several guarantees that the City makes, including:

1. The right to safe places and play
2. Positive role models throughout their childhood

3. The right to protection from neglect, abuse and EXPOSURE TO VIOLENCE, both in AND OUT OF THE HOME

The Pod proposal for Churchill Park is in direct conflict with the above 3 rights that you have guaranteed the children of Cambridge. The proposal will take away one of the most used Family parks in Cambridge and will definitely expose children and families to more violence as the issues currently seen in the Cambridge core will only be transferred to the Churchill park area. People in the downtown area already routinely see addicts actively injecting themselves and experiencing the effects of using drugs on the streets. You know this. This will not provide good role models for children in the neighbourhood. I am challenged to understand how such a proposal is being considered considering you will be acting against your own mandate to uphold the Children's Charter of Rights.

Third, the group Citizens of Cambridge who are leading this proposal, are not qualified to deal with or understand the complex issues facing the homeless and the drug addicted homeless in Cambridge. They have demonstrated through previous initiatives that are very well meaning but have lacked the objectivity to understand all aspects of the problems and in particular the impact of moving homeless and drug addicted homeless into the community. The fact they clearly state they did not involve the community in their proposal development and further state that of proposal moves forward, public consultation COULD form part of that analysis. It is a clear indication that they do not possess the necessary objectivity or even basic concern that the citizens who live in the neighbourhood are important stakeholders and as such must be informed and consulted in matters with this degree of impact to their community.

Fourth, the location proposed completely ignores the rights and needs of the community. It is an unnecessary risk to put such a project in an area so close to schools and children especially without the input of the area residents. At what point does the right of the tax payers to have a safe environment to live take a priority or even a point of consideration within the city and region planning? At what point does this council realize that the tax payers fund these initiatives and as such must be actively informed and involved? This proposal was put forward clearly stating that the public is not consulted and it does not recommend the public be consulted. And yet it is the community and tax payers who are most directly impacted. This is a problem and needs to be addressed.

A more appropriate location for such a project is industrial land away from schools and families.

In closing, for the reasons listed above it is inappropriate to consider Churchill Park as a site for the Pod housing project. I strongly object to this proposal. The surrounding community does not want this. There is growing frustration from Cambridge citizens with the City of Cambridge officials who show a lack of concern for the safety and rights of tax payers to live in neighbourhoods in which our children are not exposed to the crime and drug use related problems that these sites create. The tax paying citizens of Cambridge deserve to be consulted and have their suggestions and objections acted upon.

Sincerely

Cinnamon Cantwell

Citizen of Cambridge, Ontario

N1R 7V3

Mr. Adshade and council,

I am writing to express my concerns for the proposal of Alternative Housing in Churchill Park. As a resident of Cambridge who grew up on Highman Avenue, attending Stewart Avenue Public School & Glenview Park Secondary School I am highly familiar with this area, the neighbouring residential areas, the businesses and public facilities within close proximity.

Within the proposal report from the Citizens for Cambridge while discussing strategic alignment, goal #1 has been cited as Community Wellbeing, with the objective of promoting affordable, welcoming and vibrant neighbourhoods. Contradictory to this goal, the attached letter within the report from Jeff Willmer, the proposed location has been summarized as "reasonably well separated from residential neighbours" thus implying the anticipation of issues much like we have seen in our downtown Galt core.

I am sure that for those making this proposal; looking at a map of city owned property may conclude that this area of Churchill park may 'look' like it is 'reasonably well separated' from surrounding neighbourhoods, but I can assure you it is not. If you live in the area, if you take your kids to Churchill Park, if you go for a morning jog through the campground to Myers road, I can assure you the surrounding neighbourhoods are in quite close proximity. The health and safety and community wellbeing (GOAL #1) of the tax paying, law-abiding citizens of East Galt needs to be a higher priority here.

On a larger scale, the drug issue is ruining our city. This is not a homelessness issue, please stop treating it as a singular problem whereby providing shelter will clean up our streets. It will not. As a tax paying citizen of the City of Cambridge, along with many others who I have discussed these very issues with - funding should be allocated to rehabilitation and mental health. The rampant homelessness issue is a result of the mental health and drug addiction issue. I am baffled as to why the powers that be cannot address the root of the problem instead of band-aid solutions.

Please confirm that this letter will be included in the agenda package while discussing this issue.

Kelly Potocky

City Resident

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

To whom it may concern,

Hi there, my name is Robert Sprenger and my wife and I live with our 7 year old grandson at [REDACTED] Pinecrest Ave.

Our backyard backs directly onto the camping area in Churchill Park which is where you are proposing building a pod city to house the homeless.

We are shocked and angered that this is even being considered!!

We have lived here for 24 years and are semi retired and honest tax paying senior citizens trying our best to get thru these trying times raising our grandson (who btw has lost his mom to drug abuse and homelessness so we do have compassion on them!).

In our neighborhood, live a lot of young couples with many kids...

Right next door, there is a 2 year old and a 5 year old... next door to them 3 little girls 2,5 and 8... a few doors down a boy of 10 and 2 teenage girls...next door to them a boy of 5, girl of 3 and a baby and right next door to them a little girl of 7.

So right in this very small area are 13 kids including our boy.

All our houses back directly onto the park and there is a pathway between 2 of the homes with children.

How in the world are we expected to feel safe living here if this proposal is passed??

Not only for our kids but our property and as seniors even our lives!

On top of that, I really believe that the value of our homes will drop if this goes thru and this is just not acceptable!!

I've already spoken to some of our neighbors and most are outraged!

You force us all to wear masks in public for our protection... how will you protect us from people with drug addictions and mental issues??

As well , I can only imagine the garbage and needles and other things people will have to deal with when walking thru the park!

This is a family park with a splash pad and play area as well as ball diamonds and soccer areas etc.

This is the most ridiculous thing we have heard of (way worse than the pylon bike lanes which were bad enough!)

Please read this in the meeting and reconsider this absolute craziness!

Think about the safety of our kids and well-being of the home owners and people who want to enjoy this family park!!

Thank you,

Yours Sincerely

Robert and Donna Sprenger

Hello Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge,

As a ward 6 resident I am writing in regards to report 20-197(CD) Alternative housing proposal at Churchill Park, on the agenda for the special council meeting on Tuesday August 25.

These initiatives need to stop until all council seats are filled and when there is a proper process that is user friendly to allow delegates and public input. Not all people are on the internet or have computers or are capable/comfortable using zoom.

One sided support and all money directed at one group is not a balanced solution and which will leave many others in dire need and lengthen wait lists for affordable housing for families and seniors.

The Citizens of Cambridge group received approximately \$150,000 in funding for a meal program. This proposal ensures they are to be included as the only source of public input. As their group has a biased viewpoint that does not represent all residents, and with involvement with other matters, there is the question of a conflict of interest in promoting a proposal that would then benefit other plans.

There are many residential homes nearby, a playground, splash pad, schools and businesses where many youth are employed, potentially putting their safety at risk.

I would also like to remind you of a few key points from the Children's Charter of Rights.

- Quality of life that meets their health, physical, intellectual, emotional, spiritual and social needs
 - Healthy environments and a safe and comfortable place to live
 - Safe places and time to play
 - Positive role models throughout their childhood
 - Protection from neglect, abuse and exposure to violence, both in and out of the home
- I'm requesting that this proposal not be sent to staff.

Sincerely,

Julie Currie

NOTE: Please add this email to the agenda package.

Please add my letter to the official agenda for report #20197

Hi , I would like to have some input on the proposed "pods" that the city is looking at putting in Churchill park .

I strongly suggest that council vote AGAINST this as my family uses this park on a regular bases and i am very concerned on who the occupants of these so called "pods" may be .

i also feel quite safe in my neighbour right now and i am afraid that with these "pods" that my neighbour will become un safe for my family and that my property value will aslo take a hit .

i think that council should propose some other locations away from a family park .

Thank you Mrs .Charles

Dear Shannon, wanted to convey my frustration and disappointment at the Churchill Park Housing Proposal. This would depress the housing prices and safety of the neighborhood. There are many children here who's going to pick up the trash and needles as drug addicts do not worry about this? Please help the hardworking people who pay your wages and stop enabling addicts.

We are the ones that vote. Please stop destroying our city. If anything move housing services by the hospital or police station. Would you honestly want this in your backyard?

Regards Peter Dalton

I wish to pose my shock at the city proposing such action. Why would you even consider putting Pods for the homeless in such a busy, family oriented area such as Churchill Park. It's the only decent area for the families to get together. Also there is a very busy Plaza where a lot of the locals work. The Myers rd. area is also a school district, the safety of the children needs to be considered. Haven't your decisions already ruined our downtown and you show no support for the business owners there. I know people who own house in the downtown core, which they rent out, who have had people break in. This is while they are still home, having to call the police. The police used the battering ram to open the door and then the owner is left to pay for the repair cost. Also with having these Pods will bring more litter, from drug use, from stolen item, from garbages being toppled over. This is not to mention all the illegal activity of drug dealing and theft. It will be just like the Mill Race park, the Bridges and surrounding areas. I just heard of this so called "Pod" proposal today. Funny, I had just ordered surveillance cameras for my home 2 days ago. I did this because of the neighbourhood watch page, and seeing all the destruction in our town. I will NOT vote for any one who allows this to happen and I will go out of my way to promote whoever is running against them. I am a senior who has lived in this town my whole life and I am extremely disappointed and disgusted with how my beloved Galt has been destroyed! Time to do your job properly or step down and allow others to fix this mess.

I also heard tonight, on the local news that a tent city in Kitchener has been torn down and some of the resident are being housed in a Motel in Cambridge. Please tell me why they can't be housed in a hotel in Kitchener. Our Property taxes continue to go up, but what consideration is given to us on how our money being spent. I am sorry but there has been too much destructive behaviour in this.

Pamela Kent

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to build shelters to lessen the homeless crisis locally. I understand Churchill Park is a site of consideration.

Our family own 4 properties on Woodland Drive and are extremely concerned if this is the case. The park is zoned open space for a reason. We have seen a steady increase in the use of the park by young families over the past few years. It is a wonderful asset to the community.

The Park serves a vital role in showcasing nature, providing recreational facilities, large showcase events, play grounds and walking trails. As a Realtor promoting Cambridge as a place to live, I often reference spaces like Churchill Park to potential property purchasers.

Glenview Park Secondary School abuts the park. Other schools are not far away. The introduction of homeless shelters so close to schools is troubling.

There is an alarming number of homeless people camping along the Paris rail trail. The river and secluded bush must be an attraction. The enjoyment (and safety) of the trail system is being compromised.

I fear installing facilities for the homeless close by will encourage a larger population of homeless to the trail system and the wooded area of Churchill Park abutting the high school.

We all recognize the need to address the homeless crisis that has been thrust on our city. We also feel the need to protect our green spaces and promote the quiet enjoyment of such for all.

Please listen to our concerns and reconsider this proposal. It is the wrong location and may exasperate an already problematic situation.

The Kivell family.

David Kivell

Dear Shannon,

I hope you stop this dead in it's track. This is not the right solution and should go no further. Council would be stupid to entertain this. I am writing you as the councillor for my ward and telling you that I would like you to vote against it. This is a park where our children play on the playground, enjoy the sports fields and have a good time. You would be robbing the children if you go ahead and vote for this. Camping was cancelled here at Churchill park because of the issues that came along with camping. I can only imagine what would happen if 30-40 small units were placed there, sounds like camping on overdrive. With people who have shown they have no respect for our community

Please vote no for this.

Thank you,
Terra Dittenhoffer

Greetings Shannon Adshades,

I understand you are the ward 6 councillor, I live in that ward and have been made aware of a proposal that includes using the camping area of Churchill park for possible alternative living pods. I think in theory this is an idea that could be beneficial to the many people in our city that find themselves without a home. However, I do not feel it will be used the way it is intended.

Living in Cambridge for close to nine years has show me that there is a huge problem in our city with drugs. And with drug use and homelessness comes the problem of getting money to pay for the next fix. That in turn leads to theft, which this summer alone I have seen a huge jump of! This being due to the fact that there seems to be a huge population of homeless persons.

As I am sure many at your office have been made aware, there are many 'tent cities' popping up in way too many places in this relatively small city. This is a problem. Not a problem of space to house them though, there is that already, the problem lies in the amount of people there are that are homeless.

Adding more and more places for one to stay is not going to stop the drug use and theft. Rehabilitaton are the issues that the proposed budget for this should be going toward.

Hiding these people in 'alternative housing' is not going to solve the problem. Money for police is what is needed. Accountability for the illegal actions is what's needed.

At the very least the location should be scrapped. Churchill park is NOT the place for this idealized vision. This park is used daily by many families with young children who probably already witness more drug use and paraphernalia than they ever should.

How dare this proposal be in a place where they should feel safe.

We pay a large amount of taxes in this city and region, it is time that they money is spent to benefit the tax payers and not those who do not contribute.

My children should not be afraid to walk to and from school everyday. I should not have to fear that my child is going to come across used needles or someone using said needles in THIER park.

How about the businesses in the plaza directly behind this proposed site? How long will they be able to stay open if this goes ahead. The last thing Cambridge needs right now is more businesses closing, that has been happening enough since March.

I hope that my concerns will be brought forward along with others that I know have also reached out.

Do better

Find another option because this one is not supported.

Thank you

Kim Herbert

Respected Clerk, City of Cambridge:

I have sent the following email to all the council including mayor, since then it has been sent by thousands of Cambridge citizens to all the council. I would like my letter be included as part of the public record in the agenda for the meeting and brought to every one attention. Thank you very much.

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report with out public input on installing numerous pods type affordable / alternative housing in Churchill park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10 am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using churchill park in totality with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens live in the close proximity and to the regular users of churchill park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is with out public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness. Thank you for your kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Thank you once again for your kind consideration and much appreciated.

Best Regards,

Prakash Venkataraman

To the clerk, please include my letter in the agenda package as public record.

To all council, city staff and mayor,

In regards to the proposal for alternative pods at Churchill Park campgrounds.

I respectfully ask that you vote to NOT persue any further action, reports or consultation for alternative housing at the Churchill Park location.

This particular green space is adjacent to 2 baseball diamonds, in close proximity to a popular children's playground, is frequented by children passing thru to attend school, the local businesses and residential neighborhoods.

Its clear that these alternative pods are designed for those who cannot be housed at our shelter or in overflow, due to their substance use and/or inability to adhere to the rules. Include the proposal that these persons would then travel thru the park to access services thru the Kinbridge Association, and we now have an increased area that will need constant monitoring and tax payer clean ups.

Need I mention the adverse consequences to the surrounding homes, businesses, churches and sports activities. They will see increased crime, open drug use, concerning mental health and drug abuse behaviours, and their neighborhoods will quickly become an unsafe place for children to play without fear from harm.

We cannot disrupt children's safe spaces to live and play, especially at a time when their worlds have already been turned upside down.

Again, I ask that you vote no to the proposal of alternative pods at Churchill Park. Let's not waste tax dollars on persuing what the community is clear and steadfast on deeming this location as not appropriate.

Regards,

Sherri Roy

I am writing to you to voice my anger about proposing pods in Churchill park not far from where kids play and play baseball not to mention all the residential homes in the area There are also schools close as well The addicts /homeless criminals have already ruined galt and our rail trails where no one feels safe Now you want to put them in our parks and ruin a park This is unbelievable and I hope this will not go thru

Cambridge is a crime haven for drug addicts and the tax payers and residents are fed up

Sue woznuk

I wish to speak as a mother and as a resident of Cambridge in why I am opposed to the proposal of pods in Churchill park. I want the council to hear from residents from a stones throw away how this proposed plan will be so detrimental to the area. It is in arms reach of baseball diamonds, it is a stones throw away from residential areas where there are many families. It is a stones throw away from a splash pad, bbq areas for family picnics, children's playgrounds. It is an awful idea that needs to be addressed. I wish this to be included in the agenda package and included in public input.

Dominique Malogorski

I would like to express my concerns regarding the proposal to place temporary housing inside of Churchill Park. To be frank, we don't need another 'The Bridges' inside a public park where small children go to play.

Cole Jensen

Dear Mayor and Council members of the city of Cambridge,

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public opinion input on installing numerous pods type affordable/alternative housing in Churchill park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10:00 AM. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza which are extensively used by all residents living in the area, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using Churchill park in total with fear and potential consequences. They are all already deeply disturbed and experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. Moreover, the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down drastically along which safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it is a threat to the citizens who live in the close proximity and the regular users of Churchill park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations to gather with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public opinions and input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness..

We strongly urge you to oppose this proposal which is much appreciated.

Thankyou for your kind consideration and understanding our grave concerns to live in peace and harmony and to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Regards

Ravi Peddamudium / Mary Alice Mesa

Hello,

I am a resident of Cambridge, my postal code is N3H4X6 and I have serious concerns about the alternative housing proposal in Churchill Park. I would like my letter / email here to be included in the agenda package. First, thank you for your time in reading this email. I will get right to the point.

Why this is a bad idea:

- Offering tiny boxes as alternative housing is not going to solve or address the root cause of the problems this proposal is no doubt trying to solve. The price of homes has gone up so high that the average person with a decent paying job (anyone making below \$100,000/yr) cannot afford to purchase a home alone without assistance. Adding a few tiny homes that are similar to the 'prison cell size' here and there would not even be a bandage solution, rather only a waste of money. I would like my tax dollars to be used for long term real solutions. Such as:
 - Putting a price cap on house prices based on per sq. ft. Example: a 500 sq. ft. house price can cap at \$1000,000 and a 1000 sq. ft. house can price cap at \$2000,000
 - Support local businesses such as motels and hotels by giving them a financial incentive for filling unbooked rooms with those who do not have a residence
 - Give people who don't have jobs employment such as working and living on a farm, and if they don't want to do that then they clearly dont want to contribute to the society in which they live. And if you are a fan of Socrates you will know he suggests such people should live in other societies, only those in which they wish to contribute to. we should not be trying to help those who won't help themselves because you cant help someone like that.
- These tiny alternative homes are in a park which is a public space for the community to enjoy and was not zoned for housing. We should not be putting private residences in public places; this is an oxymoron idea. It takes away from the publicness of the space, and no doubt the residents of the tiny home will see the park as theirs and yell at passerbyers and park goers to get off their lawn.
 - There are safe injection sites that can be used for alternative housing instead. If you dont like the idea of residents imposing on a public space such as this, then its time to evaluate the cognitive dissonance being experienced with this proposed plan.
- This is a historic site and should be protected and preserved as a public park and not become another residential area.

Thank you for your time, please consider this letter.

Best,

Christine Brennan

Ward 6 councilor Shannon Adshade and city council, I have concerns about moving forward with this development being done at the Churchill park campground for alternative housing. I do not agree with this, there is many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, parks, playground, plaza, and it will potentially make citizens to avoid using Churchill Park in total fear and potential consequences. The location of such a proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location. This will only increase the crime, open drug use and improper disposal with needles, vagrancy and community vandalism. This is close to schools where kids travel to and from school, work or play. Thousands of children populate the park, the residential areas and the children use the surrounding areas for sports. I am standing up against this to protect our properties, families and our usage of green space with all righteousness. Please vote against this it's not the right place for alternative housing. Thanks, Terra Almeida

Dear Kathryn McGarry, Shannon Adshade and Council, City of Cambridge,

It has come to my attention that there is a move to install numerous pods/affordable housing in Churchill park in Cambridge. I take issue with this as this is a child/family friendly park where children are free to roam and use the entire park without fear, older children can also go to enjoy the park without being accompanied by their parents. Families and parents will now be wary of going to the park for fear of harassment and of used needles being strewn in all areas, you cannot guarantee that another child like the 7-year-old who had a needle stick last year in downtown Galt will not happen. You can place all the sharps containers you want in a general area but there is no guarantee that they will get used.

There are also surrounding homes in the area that could possibly be marked for break-ins as well as, again, having drug paraphernalia in their backyards just like it was reported in the Cambridge Times last year in backyards in Hespeler. Do homeowners have to install lights and cameras in their backyards for safety, based on my past experience the police are slow to respond to any noise complaints that may arise as they have "higher" priorities so I was told.

I see the elderly, teenagers and dog walkers etc. going past this area as it is a peaceful place to walk, but this will end if you allow this to happen.

Is the City of Cambridge financially prepared for any lawsuit that would ensue from parent(s) whose children may be injured because of this complex? I have driven by the downtown "bridges" shelter where liquor and needles are not permitted only to see someone "chug" a beer tossing the bottle on the ground before entering the shelter. There will be no such policing in this area that I will expect to grow into a tent city reaching further into the park and towards ball diamonds, playgrounds and splash pads.

This will affect people who may want to move into or sell their properties in this area.

I urge the city council to vote against this and not turn our beautiful green spaces and parks into shelter areas where people of Cambridge out of fear will avoid.

Regards,

Paul van Heeswyk

Mayor

An official email was sent to the entire Cambridge council, with a request on not to vote in favor of proposal to convert Churchill park with 'Pods' for alternative housing, scheduled for August 25th 2020 @ 10 Am.

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public input on installing numerous pods type affordable / alternative housing in Churchill park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10 am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using Churchill park in totality with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens live in the close proximity and to the regular users of Churchill park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness. Thank you for your kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Thank you once again for your kind consideration and much appreciated.

PS May I request that the clerk include this in the agenda package.

Melinda Kregar

Mayor and council members

I have been made aware that a certain amount of Pods are going to be placed in Churchill park in the old camping area! My first question is are any of you parents? If so would you take them to a park that is housing homeless and drug addicts? Would you want your children around this? I know myself and most of this community does not want this. Who's idea was this? Because it definitely is not the brightest idea at all. Have any of you acknowledged the complaints about the tent cities on our trails, down at the Mill by LA Franks, and all of the complaints in general.

Don't get me wrong I'm not cold hearted, there is a homeless problem and true homelessness in the city, but a lot of it is mental health and drug addicts that don't even know how to put something in a garbage can.

Who will be cleaning up after these people daily? Because you and I both know that they are not very good housekeepers, and we all know garbage brings in mice and rats. Is this project coming out of our hard working tax payers money, I'm sure it will be. I make under \$35 k a year and I have to pay out over \$4,000 a year on diabetic meds, supplies out of pocket and that with having work benefits. And that's not including any dental work myself or my daughter may need during the year. My point is you want to make it cozy for these people to live while hard working ppl struggle to get meds we need to stay alive. So please enlighten me, why in the world would ANYONE think that these pods in a park would be a good idea! If anything why don't you spend money on more security, more mental health care, and getting these ppl help, then if they don't want to help themselves then run them out of the city.

Where would they use the washroom? In the public bathroom that is for the park users, families, KIDS!!

These tents, and garbage is already taking over the city and it seems like nothing gets done about it.

If this is something that you really want to do, put them on a piece of property away from the city not in a park! Also I hope you make them clean up the area not paying them of course, this should not be the job of City Workers to have to clean up after.

I myself as a parent of a ten year old am asking that this be brought forward at the council meeting Aug 25 2020, that this project gets shut down.

In my personal opinion this is the stupidest idea that I have heard of and I can't believe council would even bring this forward. I am hoping to make it to the council meeting.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Stephanie

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public input on installing numerous pods type affordable/ alternative housing in Churchill Park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using Churchill Park in total with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in these pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens who live in the close proximity and to the regular users or Churchill Park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness.

Thank you for your kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Alison Thomas

Good morning,

It was brought to my attention that the City is considering installing affordable housing in Churchill Park. If this goes through you are making a major mistake. This is an area where our children go to play. We are already having enough issues with drugs and needles being left around the city and now you want to make it more accessible for them. You are enabling them instead of trying to solve the problem. If this goes through I will be selling my house and moving to another city before Galt becomes even worse than it already is. I have already had to confront these drug addicts rifling through our neighbours cars when I come home at 4am and have already had my car stolen right out of my driveway because they have easy access to the grand River trail as their getaway. Not to mention the bike chop shop and camp located beside the sewage treatment plant.

Our city is going downhill and you want to enable them instead of try to solve the problem. That bridges centre has to go. I don't understand why something like that couldn't be located in the country where they have less access to drugs and alcohol.

If these pods go up in Churchill Park you will see my house and many of my neighbours houses go up for sale before we take a hit on property value and safety for our children.

Please include this letter in the official agenda report #20-197 (CD)

I vote no on the affordable housing in Churchill Park. Worst idea the City has had yet!!!!!!

Jeremy and Elizabeth Clark

Mr. Adshade and council,

I am writing to express my concerns for the proposal of Alternative Housing in Churchill Park. As a resident of Cambridge who grew up on Highman Avenue, attending Stewart Avenue Public School & Glenview Park Secondary School I am highly familiar with this area, the neighbouring residential areas, the businesses and public facilities within close proximity.

Within the proposal report from the Citizens for Cambridge while discussing strategic alignment, goal #1 has been cited as Community Wellbeing, with the objective of promoting affordable, welcoming and vibrant neighbourhoods. Contradictory to this goal, the attached letter within the report from Jeff Willmer, the proposed location has been summarized as "reasonably well separated from residential neighbours" thus implying the anticipation of issues much like we have seen in our downtown Galt core.

I am sure that for those making this proposal; looking at a map of city owned property may conclude that this area of Churchill park may 'look' like it is 'reasonably well separated' from surrounding neighbourhoods, but I can assure you it is not. If you live in the area, if you take your kids to Churchill Park, if you go for a morning jog through the campground to Myers road, I can assure you the surrounding neighbourhoods are in quite close proximity. The health and safety and community wellbeing (GOAL #1) of the tax paying, law-abiding citizens of East Galt needs to be a higher priority here.

On a larger scale, the drug issue is ruining our city. This is not a homelessness issue, please stop treating it as a singular problem whereby providing shelter will clean up our streets. It will not. As a tax paying citizen of the City of Cambridge, along with many others who I have discussed these very issues with - funding should be allocated to rehabilitation and mental health. The rampant homelessness issue is a result of the mental health and drug addiction issue. I am baffled as to why the powers that be cannot address the root of the problem instead of band-aid solutions.

Please confirm that this letter will be included in the agenda package while discussing this issue.

Kelly Potocky

City Resident

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public input on installing numerous pod type affordable / alternative housing in Churchill park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for 25th August 2020 at 10 am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using Churchill park in totality with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens that live in the close proximity and to the regular users of Churchill park.

The location of such a proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest ,council vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior to considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness. Thank you for your kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Thank you once again for your kind consideration and much appreciated.

Best Regards,

Howard & Vicki McPhail

Tax Payers

Council Members,

This email is in regards to the above report which will be presented to Council August 25, 2020.

This is an information report providing Council with an introductory proposal to use a section of Churchill Park as a possible site to create affordable/alternative housing (pods) for a certain number of homeless individuals.

As this is at the proposal stage only, it is imperative that Council ask questions of staff and the group Citizens for Cambridge. In reading this report there are too many unknowns that require serious consideration.

1. Location - is this the only location that can be utilized, a family public space?
2. Homeless individuals - Council needs to make the distinction between homeless individuals and homeless individuals that are addicts. There is a huge difference. Yes the homeless require housing but homelessness stemming from addiction causing criminal activity is unacceptable in any area of Cambridge. Why house addicts that continue to steal, destroy and harass.
3. Criteria and/or Guidelines - what type of guidelines are being prepared, if any? Who determines who qualifies to live in a pod type home?
4. What extra costs will the City have to pay, other than the initial quote in the report?
5. How will the area be maintained or controlled? The Ambassador program is having difficulty keeping on top of the complaints and cleanup now.

Again, I ask that Council ask questions and thoroughly investigate this proposal before approving it.

Thank you,
Pat Stager

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public input on installing numerous pods/affordable housing/ alternative housing in Churchill Park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, ball diamonds for kids, park, playground, plaza and it would potentially make the citizens avoid using Churchill Park in fear of potential consequences. They are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings involving vehicle break-ins, homeless presence on nearby trails. Moreover, the entire property values in the area will go down the drain along with safety. My children use these baseball diamonds, walk in this path to go to the park and use the nearby businesses independently. I would not feel safe allowing my children to use the path, go to the park or frequent the businesses if these pods were there.

The potential users who would be housed in these pods are unknown and it is also a threat to the citizens who live in close proximity and to the regular users of Churchill Park.

The location of such a proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest/request that council vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior to considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public input, or with the majority voting by the council, it will create great public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space.

Thank you for your consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect the families and children in this area.

Please add my letter to the Official agenda for Report #20-197(CD).

Tammy Yetman

Greetings. In regards to the pods being proposed for the Churchill park rv rest center. I believe that's what it used to be. But that failed because the city would not maintain or upgrade the property. I believe the city and council need to further investigate this, and not rush into this. I believe the city should not be one sided on the proper choices of representatives. ie..Citizen Cambridge. I think you should look at alternative organizations that have proven results. I believe there are individuals who need help in our community. You can see all the homeless. I live in the core of Galt, off of upper Main street. So I do get into the downtown area every day. It's sad and yes I agree that something needs to be done. I'm not sure the pods alone is the answer. There is an addiction problem that needs to be addressed. The way it's being done, is just hiding the main problem. You will not fix it this way. I believe is may end up a bigger problem.

In ending. No. I don't want the pod residences built without further public input.

Thank you.

Dominic Tantalo.

Mayor McGarry and members of City Council:

Cambridge citizens are becoming angry over the fact that city hall so easily spends our hard earned money without public input.

Every one agrees that the homeless need housing and support but since we the tax payers will be paying the bill to build, maintain, cleanup and policing of the area, we should have the right to be allowed to have a say on how to implement such a project, where it will be established and the criteria for accessing the support.

Firstly homeless and addicts who are homeless need to be housed separately to protect the vulnerable homeless from the harassing and dangerous behaviour of the addicts. Secondly Churchill Park is an area frequented by families and children. Why do you keep forgetting the rights and safety of Cambridge's families. Why do you insist on implementing these projects in areas where families congregate. Thirdly we need more affordable housing but instead you keep letting greedy developers build whatever they want wherever they want and charging thru the roof for their homes yet compared to the number of people on the wait list, very little affordable housing is being built.

Enough!!!! Surely there must be another location, either an empty city or industrial lot away from the cores and areas where children and family frequent, that could be looked at. We all know once you place those pods in Churchill park they will be a permanent fixture as the homeless situation is ongoing.

In addition, More of an effort needs to be made to develop and implement affordable housing projects!

And at the very least you need to allow for public input. We supply the revenue and have the right to be heard!

Paula Surdin

I'm hoping that this information is some kind of joke.

If it is true that this is being considered by city staff and council I want to voice my objection to this right now.

I have lived on Tutton Place since 1975.

If you don't know this street is almost directly across the street from the entrance to the park.

This park is used by neighbourhood kids and adults including seniors like me every day of the year. It has an arena, skateboard park, playgrounds, sports fields and wonderful walking trails.

We do not need or want more homeless people on a permanent basis.

There are industrial areas that could be used for this purpose without putting children and seniors in jeopardy.

There are enough needles found in the park now without an infusion of more homeless.

This may sound NIMBY and maybe it is but my wife and I are totally opposed to this.

Dear Shannon and Council,

Please include this email in the package for the council meeting.

We have lived backing onto Churchill Park for 20 years, first for 14 years backing onto soccer fields and then/now 6 years backing onto the fields adjacent to the proposed site for the homeless pods.

We have watched this community go from the original home buyers in the 1960's to us bringing up our children to now a community of many younger families with small children.

Our children used Churchill to play soccer, climb in the rocketship and search for turtles in the creek and pond. Now the younger families get to use this park and watch their kids have fun.

We also use the park to walk through the trails starting behind the arena all the way to The Short Stop (part of this trail is directly behind the campground which is the proposed site for this housing) Our kids walked through the park twice a day to attend school at Glenview Park. Anytime we walk through there are always kids using the playground or the skate park.

Now there is a proposal to bring homeless pods to the old campground. While Churchill is currently a place to visit and have fun, it has also already seen its share of sketchy people and drug paraphernalia. My friend's daughter was approached by a man on her way to school. The Paris Trail across Water Street has also already seen many drug users and homeless etc hanging out along the trail and river.

Why would we as a community want to add more of what is already a problem to our neighborhood. Bringing the pods to Churchill will decrease the usage of the park, kids won't be walking through to get to school and I am sure the playground equipment and other buildings on the property will be subjected to vandalism. Also, because our house backs onto the field adjacent to this campground, we are expecting to see problems in our backyard!

There must be an alternative site for these people. Since there are no amenities for them in this end of town that must not be an important factor so let's put the pods in an industrial area away from homes and children and parks. Putting them in the park could significantly reduce the value of our homes.

I hope that the City of Cambridge will use some common sense when making this decision. No one wants to see more problems brought into their neighborhoods. Ask yourself if this is something you would want near your backyard.

Regards,

Laurie and Craig Turner

Ward 6 councilor Shannon Adshade and city council, I have concerns about moving forward with this development being done at the Churchill park campground for alternative housing. I do not agree with this, there is many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, parks, playground, plaza, and it will potentially make citizens to avoid using Churchill Park in total fear and potential consequences. The location of such a proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location. This will only increase the crime, open drug use and improper disposal with needles, vagrancy and community vandalism. This is close to schools where kids travel to and from school, work or play. Thousands of children populate the park, the residential areas and the children use the surrounding areas for sports. I am standing up against this to protect our properties, families, property value and our usage of green space with all righteousness. Please vote against this it's not the right place for alternative housing.

Thanks

Stefano Almeida

Dear Community Leaders,

I am hoping you can provide me with a little more information about the Alternative Housing Proposal at Churchill Park. I understand a proposal is being presented on Aug 25th.

Could you provide some information via email?

I would like to learn more about this initiative and also the process for implementation. I would like information about opportunities for community involvement and input.

Our neighbourhood loves Churchill park. It's beautiful and peaceful. I have been coming to Churchill park for 40 years. As a child I enjoyed the arena, baseball diamonds, soccer fields, playgrounds and trails. As a parent, I now enjoy the park with my husband, three children, and dog. My son absolutely loves the new splash pad and the skate park!

I know that homelessness is on the rise. I value and support the important work being done by the Bridges and the Cambridge Self Help Food Bank. I believe affordable housing solutions are needed, however, I feel the proposed location is not suitable for reasons of safety and sanitation.

Thank you for everything that you do for our community! Please let me know about any opportunities for community involvement and input on this proposal.

Sara Byma

Good morning,

Recently, the situation has come to light that there will be a proposal put to the Cambridge Council on August 25, 2020 @ 10am. Report # 20-197 (CD).

I strongly reject this proposal.

I have been a citizen of Galt since 1979 and lived within a 1 km radius of Churchill Park the entire time. With each passing day the area is deteriorating without a glimpse of hope. Now there is a proposal to put our public park at risk. A place where children enjoy being outside with their parents and grandparents, and now you want to change it to the same environment that we experience when walking downtown Galt. This is shameful!

The blinders need to come off. What will it take for the Council to assist with the clean up of Galt, not the take down!

My youngest son experienced a physical attack a few years ago in the Christopher/Champlain area that left him with broken bones and his jaw wired shut and over 6-months of recovery. Our system failed him when the attackers received a slap on the hand for their crimes.

While walking on the trail by the Grand, I have been approached by vagrants that caused me to fear for my safety and took the excitement away from thinking about going back down. And yes, I always walk with a friend.

The situations and story could go one, but why!

Do something as the Representatives of our beautiful Town! **Do not** vote in favour of this proposal.

Keep the Citizens safe!

Regards,

Linda Burnside

Respected Mayor and Council, City of Cambridge:

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report with out public input on installing numerous pods type affordable / alternative housing in Churchill park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10 am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using churchill park in totality with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens live in the close proximity and to the regular users of churchill park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is with out public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness. Thank you for your kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Thank you once again for your kind consideration and much appreciated.

Thanks,

Sharon

Hello,

I live near Churchill park and strongly disagree with the idea of 40 pods being set up at a local park for the reasons I am sure you are well aware of. I think that the city can find a better location as a local park is a horrible idea.

Thank you ,

Jaimey Andrade

Please include this letter in the package for the council meeting against the modular dwellings in Churchill Park.

I have lived in this community with my two small children for five years. We moved here because I felt this was a safe place to live, coming from Mississauga. My children and I frequent Churchill Park regularly, along with a lot of other neighbourhood children. My children also have their soccer practices and games in this park. I cannot see having this modular dwelling located at a park where so many kids play and attend organized sports being a good thing. It is known that drug use will be a large problem as it already is in our city. We do not need this where our children will be spending time. If there is approval on this matter, then I will seriously consider moving from Cambridge as this will no longer be the safe place where I saw my children growing up.

Thank you,

Allison Preston

Hello Councilor Adshade,

I received a handmade flyer in my mailbox yesterday letting me know that a proposal is coming to council tomorrow for a 30-40 modular dwelling at Churchill Park Campground. This campground is a short walking distance from my home. The flyer was written to incite discord and suggest we reach out to you and City Council in protest of the modular housing. I reject this exclusionary, uncompassionate, and short-sighted reaction to the proposed moduls and am instead offering my support to this project. People need homes. The COVID-19 pandemic has magnified the already existing inequities marginalized people in our community experience, and the vital role housing plays in keeping people safe and healthy, which in turn keeps our whole community healthy. Our community is not only for certain kinds of people - people who own their homes, people who have well-paying jobs, and people who are healthy - our community is for everyone. As a member of this neighbourhood I wholeheartedly support the development of modular housing.

I do suggest that the modular housing be intentionally designed to address the concerns expressed in the flyer, especially around the possibility of dirty needles. Designers will also have to attend to the tree wall surrounding the campsite, as people who are not residents of the modular housing may use this space to engage in problematic behaviour that the modular housing occupants will not be able to address as it will be off modular property. A strong organization(s) with leadership ability and a proven track record of being able to positively operate social and/or supportive housing will be crucial to the success of this endeavour. I highly recommend a thorough, and long-term public outreach strategy to bring the neighbourhood along and create community between people in the modular housing and other residents. This has proven to be essential to the success of other housing endeavours where there were strong NIMBY reactions. Finally, in response to the flyer's concerns about dirty needles, it is imperative that Cambridge build a safe consumption and treatment service at a location that makes sense for its clients so that people can use substances safely and have a place to dispose of drug paraphernalia.

People are scared of change. People are scared of people who they don't think look or act like them. These are fallacies that we need to push against to create a *real* community and not one built by exclusion.

I would like this email included in the package for the council meeting.

Regards,

Erin Dej

We have been made aware that the city of Cambridge is preparing to install pods for alternative housing in Churchill Park (without feedback/voting rights from current residents). This is absurd on every level. There is enough fear with current times in the pandemic than to add this. You are risking the health and safety of residents. There are schools, parks, playgrounds, and residents of all ages. In this area, it is already unsafe to be out in the neighbourhood because of the Brydges being so close by. More efforts should be placed in dealing with those homeless that are drug addicts and thieves. More efforts should be spent in cleaning up the area that is nothing but needles or homeless people on drugs causing danger to residents (and children!). Less time should be spent enabling them. What happened to cleaning up Cambridge and relocating the Brydges to an area that would not cause harm and fear for residents? Why are you thinking of causing even more harm and danger to residents putting it in such a residential area?

Kind regards,
Janelle McGlashan & Roger Leavitt

Hello Mr. Adshade,

I am a resident of the community around Churchill Park (█████Wheatland) in Ward 6. It has been brought to my attention by a community group (The Voice Cambridge) that there is a proposal to locate alternative housing in the Churchill Park Campground area to be presented to council at the meeting Tuesday, August 25 at 10 a.m. I would like my email to be included in the package for this council meeting and have requested to speak to council on this matter through the Delegation Request Form on the city site.

I have two teenage boys attending Glenview Park SS, frequently use the park for walking my dog and cycling, and have concerns about this housing project and what it might mean for the community. I would like to learn more about it and advocate for community input on this project before it is approved. I attend Central Presbyterian Church and frequent the downtown area and river region also, so am familiar with the homelessness and drug addiction problems in the area. It is a problem to be managed and needs to be considered carefully in any decision of this nature. I appreciate your time in this matter. Please forward me any materials that I can read about this proposal.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith

Hi Shannon,

I have a number of issues with this proposal. I live on Ironstone Drive.

That park is used by kids and their families for a number sports. How safe will it be for our children to play baseball and soccer with used needles that could possibly be just thrown in the grass or other drug paraphernalia. In the winter the arena will be used by the people you are going to houses. They will be using the washrooms for not only using the washrooms but also for their drug activity. The arena is not only be used by Cambridge residents but also by teams for out of town. How will it look on Cambridge to have this type of activity in our city owned buildings. How could having the housing in a city park be a good idea? You will be putting our kids at risk.

There is play ground and splash pad not far from the camp ground. Families in the area will no longer use the park.

The rest of the park will be used by the homeless as an overflow also. When the housing is full, others that don't live in the housing will start putting up tents in the park. Just like what happens now behind the Bridges.

I think that housing the homeless is a good idea just not in a city park. DO NOT put our children, pets and families at risk. You need to come up with a better solution.

Thanks,

Brad Boomer

To Whom it may concern

I ask that the following email is included in the agenda package.

We are writing to you regarding the Alternative Housing proposal for Churchill park. This proposal has come at quite a surprise not due to the need to support people who find themselves in difficult situations but because of the startling location. Churchill park is widely used by many families in the neighborhood including ourselves, who utilize the many amenities the park has to offer. The park also serves to support many sporting activities for both local and visiting teams.

That said, here in lies our concern with the proposal. Unfortunately, examples of where we see housing support provided, the surrounding areas are seen to become less desirable and at worst hazardous. Examples to point out with downtown Galt being a typically scenic location but unfortunately is marred by littering, loitering, urinating in public areas and unfortunately the often-encountered stray needle. Another more recent example is Lot 42 which has recently become a temporary residence and in that time, there has been a number of complaints and for noise, and a reoccurrence of unsavory behavior.

As mentioned, Churchill park provides a place for many families, many with young children to come and enjoy time with one another in a safe environment. The proposal potential creates a risky environment frequented by young children. Furthermore, there is concern that the housing project proposed would result in degradation of the park and surrounding areas. These areas made up primarily of private property would also suffer. The individuals and families who own these properties have worked hard with many continuing to do so to acquire a place they can call home in the area. The proposal has the potential to negatively impact value of the property homeowners have worked so hard to obtain.

Our views and comments expressed above pertain to us to be strongly not in favour of the proposed housing project at Churchill park.

Regards, Sam and Emma Livesey

**Request this be added to the official Agenda for Report #20-197(CD) | August 25, 2020
@10am**

We have been made aware that the city of Cambridge is preparing to install pods for alternative housing in Churchill Park (without feedback/voting rights from current residents). This is absurd on every level. There is enough fear with current times in the pandemic than to add this. You are risking the health and safety of residents. There are schools, parks, playgrounds, and residents of all ages. In this area, it is already unsafe to be out in the neighbourhood because of the Brydges being so close by. More efforts should be placed in dealing with those homeless [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. More efforts should be spent in cleaning up the area that is nothing but needles or homeless people on drugs causing danger to residents (and children!). Less time should be spent enabling them. What happened to cleaning up Cambridge and relocating the Brydges to an area that would not cause harm and fear for residents? Why are you thinking of causing even more harm and danger to residents putting it in such a residential area?

Kind regards,
Janelle McGlashan & Roger Leavitt

Good afternoon

I have concerns with the proposed alternative housing project for Churchill Park. I have grandchildren in the area that frequent the playground and attend soccer games. I would ask that you reconsider this proposed location at this time.

Thank you
Susan Preston

Good Morning Councillor Adshades,

I'm writing to you today in regards to the recent news about the Affordable Housing project that is being discussed this coming Tuesday.

As a local resident of Cambridge and living in the Birkinshaw Community (Across the Street) now for 6 years it extremely concerning that someone in our region thought that this was a great location.

I'm 100% on board for affordable housing and believe that everyone in our community needs somewhere to call home.

What I'm not on board for is the type of activity that comes with this type of housing and that if this is allowed to continue, the dangers that we are putting our youth and young parents that visit that park / surrounding area every single day. The proposed project being discussed we know first-hand is a bad idea as it currently isn't working at LOT 42 in Kitchener.

Local Business's in that area continue to have break ins, damage done to property and an overwhelming amount of theft. In many cases as well the drug abuse that takes place and the paraphernalia that is left behind for others to encounter puts our local residence in continuous dangers. We know first-hand the amount of concerns the residence in Cambridge have over this type of behaviour in our parks and city space already so to even consider this is outrageous.

Below are many reasons why I feel this area isn't the safest area for our residence in our community

- Although the letter provided to City Council states this is a great area due to the lack of residence in that area that is false. We have many mini communities in and around the area that use this park daily. Seniors walking their dogs, kids playing in the park etc.
- Churchill Park has always been that park that has the opportunity to do more for our Region. Highland Games is a prime example of that. A well-established Festival that attracts many out of town visitors ever year. By putting this Affordable Housing in one of our entrances to the park you are leaving a ever lasting impression on visitors to our city
- Cambridge Minor Soccer / Baseball have been using Churchill Park for many years to house their organized youth sports. Although this area that is being proposed is outside of the park, we are facing challenges already in our city with drug addictions etc. I know firsthand parents bringing their kids to the park they already have the responsibility to walk the parks equipment each and every time their kids are about to play due to the drug paraphernalia left around (Needles etc) Do we have the resources to do this before every soccer practice, game?
- The City has done an amazing job spending additional tax payer's money to clean up our parks and getting away from the stigma we currently face in our region. Was all that spending true for nothing?
- Many residences use this entrance to get into Churchill Park daily (All the Communities on Myers Rd) Having this group housed there puts them at risk
- Local Businesses – Although few we have a plethora of local business on the other side of the fence – Tim Hortons, Indulge Ice Cream, Big Bear etc etc that will be heavily impacted by this decision
- Proximity to Schools - Within a 2-5 km radius from this proposed area we have multiple schools with 10's of thousands of children
- Depreciation of our homes. Let's be honest those that reside in that end of town and have worked hard to keep the value of their home up will see a HUGE decline in the value of their home.

Although this plan is only discussing 30-40 units, we know that this will not end up being the case. The baseball field across the entrance will turn into a tent city very quickly and what will start as a 30-unit plan will grow fast

We have seen this first hand when you see all the illegal camps that are moved in and around the city.

I hope the city truly looks at some of these decisions while voting on Tuesday.

I appreciate your time and the other Councillors / Mayor copied on this email and would appreciate this letter being added to the official Agenda for Report #20-197(CD)

We are trusting you to make the right decisions for all of us that don't have a vote

Joe Hall
■ Kedwell St
Cambridge

Attention: Churchill Park and Surrounding Residents (Ward 6)

An official email was sent to the entire Cambridge council, with a request on not to vote in favor of proposal to convert Churchill park with 'Pods' for alternative housing, scheduled for August 25th 2020@ 10 AM. Report #20-197(CD)

It came to our attention that city staff has prepared a report without public input on installing numerous pods type affordable/ alternative housing in Churchill Park, Cambridge. This report is part of the council agenda for August 25th 2020 at 10 am. Staff is seeking direction from the council to move forward with this proposal.

There are many residential properties nearby, schools, splash pads for kids, park, playground, plaza, and it would potentially make the citizens to avoid using Churchill Park in total with fear and potential consequences. They all are already experiencing enormous pain with the recent happenings. More over the entire property values in and around Galt, Cambridge will go down the drain along with safety.

The potential users who are planned to be housed in those pods are unknown and also it's a threat to the citizens live in the close proximity and to the regular users of Churchill Park.

The location of such proposal is very critical and I strongly suggest council to vote against this location and direct staff to propose multiple other locations together with public input from those locations prior considering to vote for approval.

In my opinion, if it moves forward as it is without public input, and or with majority voting by the council, it will create public unrest and unnecessary commotion to protect their own properties, families and proper usage of green space with all righteousness.

Thank you for yom kind consideration and understanding to do the right thing to protect every citizen of Cambridge and green public space.

Thank you once again for your kind consideration and much appreciated.

Dennis Gouveia

Good day.

I am writing in regards to the proposed housing for Churchill Park Campground.

I live on Langlaw drive and as I believe the homeless have a right to be safe and warm, I just do not think this is the best location.

This area is populated by children on a daily basis. There has been so many improper disposal of needles we do not want children to get hurt while playing at background or walking to and from school.

Please consider a different location.

There is a location behind 150 Main St. that could be used for this exact reason.

Thank you.
Nellie Cabral Melo

Dear Shannon,

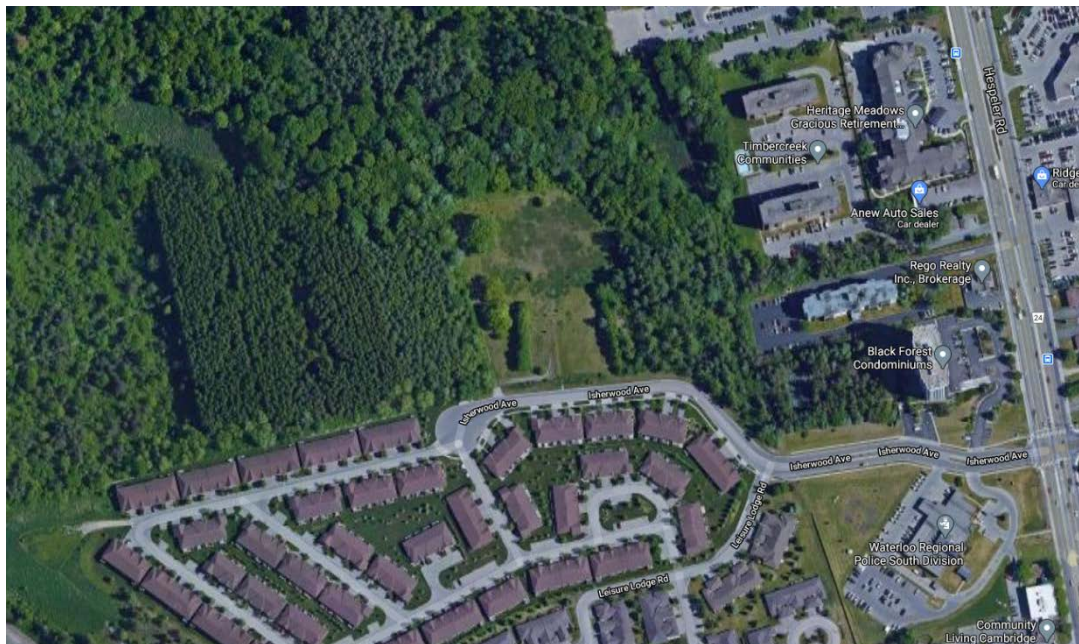
Please include this email in the package for the council meeting.

Churchill Park is a park meant for families, walking your dog, playing with your kids. By making it a landing zone for transient bums, it will scare away the families, dogs will get needles stuck in their foot, kids will be scared to play there. It will cease to be a Park, but will turn into a ghetto [REDACTED].

I have no doubt there a few honest cases of people needing assistance, and I am grateful that we as a society can help them. But most of the people frequenting this place are unemployed bums who have no intention of being part of society.

I say put this new "Campground" right next to the Police station (actually behind the YMCA, but saying Police Station sounds better), or better yet, right next to your home. Lets see how you like it when your six year old brings you a needle and asks what it is for. I doubt you would also enjoy the reduction in your home value when you try to sell it and all they see are [REDACTED] sleeping under trees.

I honestly do mean behind the Police station, lots of room, not too far from major facilities, on a bus route, [REDACTED] will have no problem finding them. But the best reason is that they will not bother anyone there. Maybe you [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Please put this "Campground [REDACTED]" somewhere else or better yet, put these [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. Maybe a drying out period will help.

I do not believe in a "Safe Injection Site". If you are a drug addict, you need help. By building them a place to crash and get high, you are simply an enabler, [REDACTED].

Will crime go up in the wake of your bad decision? You bet. But not so much if they are behind the "Y".

Please do not ruin our lovely park.

Rick Faulkner
[REDACTED] Woodcroft Place

Affordable/alternative housing in Churchill Park, Cambridge

Good Afternoon, Council and Staff. I would like to thank you for giving me the time to speak regarding the affordable /alternative housing idea for Churchill Park in Cambridge.

I have been a housing advocate for the last 10 years and through that time, I have been able to understand why we have a housing crisis and created solutions in order to fix the housing crisis.

Government Housing, private rentals, tiny homes, pod homes, shelters and emergency shelters all have one thing in common- A broken system.

Due to the unsustainable housing system, elected officials all over Ontario are looking for bandaid solutions. Bandaid solutions will not be sustainable and will cause more issues rather than solving them. The Province and municipal governments are both struggling to address the housing crisis.

You will hear many speakers today how this project will take away the park from their children, cause their homes to be a red zone for theft and how tiny homes/pod homes will not be good for the resident's mental health.

Real housing solutions can be implemented if the Province and Municipal government work with stakeholders to address the real housing issues. These issues come from an unbalanced Residential tenancy act, a broken landlord and tenant board system, municipal policies (such as water billing, landlord licensing, property standards and building code) government housing policies, lack of funding for maintaining government housing, and wasted money on bandaid housing solutions.

I only have 5 mins to speak so I do not have the time to speak to all the solutions for the municipal and provincial government right now but I would suggest all councillors vote NO to this project for two reasons 1. as the council is still missing ward 7 voice and 2. there are better solutions that can be implemented instead of bandaid solutions. I would invite the council and staff to a virtual meeting to learn about real housing issues and our proposed changes to address the housing crisis in Ontario.

Kayla Andrade
Ontario Landlords Watch

Jenn Roswell
Ontario Landlords Watch

Dear Sirs/Madams:

I am sending this e-mail to you, re the above. I would like this e-mail to be included in the package for the council meeting.

I reside at ■ Woodland Drive, Cambridge. Although I am a good distance from the campground, I am still very much against the above. I was under the impression that the city could not build any homes on park property. Am I wrong?

Although I see the minimum cost would be \$210.00, we know this project would come in at much more! I would hope you would give thought that these homes must be heated, hydro costs! water costs! and who will truck away the garbage? Also how will you be able to keep track of just how many people are living in each home?

The City stopped allowing trailers to park there while families were on vacation. Reason being homeless people were setting up tents and living there. Making a mess. dropping their garbage and needles, that is why the City closed it down. Now you are considering a proposal to allow them to live there, please think about this proposal rationally!

I fully agree with the top 3 concerns, as listed in the flyer I received today, in my mailbox. As you can see I have other concerns, as listed above.

I do feel bad for anyone who is homeless, but this why we have the Bridges. I would imagine since these dwellings are for the homeless, paying rent would be a hardship. So all costs involved would fall on the taxpayer. I have, as well as many others, have a tax payment due in September, my City and regional Taxes are high enough without any extra burdens.

Please think carefully before voting on this proposal. I urge you to consider all ramifications. Churchill Park is a very lovely Park, just like all other Parks in our City and I do not think you would consider this proposal for Victoria Park, Soper Park or Riverside Park.

I thank you in advance for reading and considering this e-mail.

I remain yours truly,
Joyce Buell, (Mrs.)

I live on Enfield Drive and was just made aware of this ridiculous proposal site.

This site is steps away from a Splash Park as well as the park my children play at. There are also soccer fields and baseball diamonds children play on.

How in the world would anyone think this is a suitable location for such thing? It would make the park unsafe for our children with open drug use! There would also surely be an increase in crime and vandalism and break-ins in the area. Down-town has already become unsafe due to the shelter, you cannot walk down the street without a being harassed by a drug addict and now you want to bring that up to our children's park?

I am not saying that the housing is not needed, but placing it in a park is ABSURD!!!!

Anonymous

Please add my letter of concern to the official agenda for report #20-197(CD)

I write this letter as a parent and a resident of Cambridge. I strongly oppose the proposal to put alternative housing pods in the Churchill Park area. I feel it will create a dangerous and unsafe environment in one of our most cherished community parks and it puts our children at risk. It is downright irresponsible to vote in favour of housing pods in a park and will most certainly invite drugs, crime, and unsafe, unsanitary conditions into a place that is meant for our children to enjoy. I strongly request that you do NOT vote in favor of housing in Churchill Park.

Sincerely,

A concerned parent and upstanding member of our community.

Good Morning,

Please see my concerns noted below regarding this matter. You may use this email to be included in the package for the council meeting but I would like to remain anonymous for my safety. Please block my email as well.

Concerns Regarding Alternate Housing - Churchill Park Pods:

I am writing to you all today regarding not only my personal concerns about the expansion of housing but also as a voice for all others who may be unaware of what's happening in their neighbourhood, just as I was until my neighbour provided me with a notice.

I'm deeply upset about the possibility of pods being placed right around the corner from my residents as I'm sure countless others are as well. I'm upset for reasons expressed below:

I moved to Cambridge 8 years ago and I remember when I moved to Galt specifically it was because of the deep history in the downtown core, beautiful residential homes, close proximity to schools, and gorgeous green spaces such as Churchill Park and the Paris Trail.

I used to visit Cambridge before I eventually moved here and I remember many community events taking place, a bustling Hespeler Road strip and as the years have passed I have also seen the city slowly deteriorate. I used to enjoy being downtown on the weekends, strolling by the river, helping support the local shops in the core, even taking part in the events in the city centre.

Now that has been replaced with deep fear, uncertainty, and anger as I see many "Drifters" (I will use this term for lack of a better word) roaming the streets, leaving their rubbish trailing behind everywhere they go and approaching innocent residents inappropriately for money. I have come across needles, people strung out on drugs, bodies laid out in random areas of Galt. Children asking their parents "What's wrong with that man, or lady..." I feel like I am living in a movie that I didn't ask to be a part of. There is a constant concern over whether we will be attacked, if we will touch something with a residue that may harm us, will our homes or vehicles be invaded ? Will our children be attacked walking home from school? Will our children step on a used needle? or touch a used needle?

By placing these pods in Churchill park we are not fixing or helping solve the biggest issue here... The city has countless resources in place for these issues not just Cambridge but surrounding areas. The city is overwhelmed with addicts. I am not ignorant to people with addictions, I personally have someone who is part of my family that struggles with similar issues. If there is one thing I have learnt from them is that if you give them an inch they will take a mile!! That is what is happening in Cambridge! The City is getting money from someone or other cities to help clean out their City and Taxpayers who PAY for these green spaces to be kept clean and well maintained is now becoming a biohazard for alternate housing pods?!! What have we become?

We all know the intentions here are good, the idea on paper maybe seems good to those who do not live in this neighbourhood or to those who maybe don't even live here at all! Of course it would because out of sight out of mind works well for those whose motto is "Ignorance is Bliss."

The pods will just become another dumping ground for rubbish, needles and an area for them to get high and not care or appreciate anything. After all, this is the end game right? Not to care. Not to feel. The park will become another ground zero, a place to avoid, a place no longer of peace and serenity for families. I have been reading a lot of articles online about this opioid crisis we are in and it baffles me that other cities in the USA as well as here in Canada think that this pattern or approach is helping the problem. It's the same cycle repeated and if anything I read these articles and they all result in the same thing... More addicts, more needles, more attacks, more strain on EMS calls, and more freedom... but for who? For them! Not for us. Not for the citizens who work hard day in and day out to provide for their families, who pay their bills, and their tax money hoping for a bigger better brighter future. No... we all keep losing. We are the ones who suffer, who lose our safety, who lose our city.

In closing, I am asking this; imagine your child or yourself coming in contact with someone who uses , coming in contact with paraphernalia, or your home being targeted. How do you feel? How do you feel at the thought of this happening? I am begging you to not go ahead with this housing option. There has to be an alternate option that doesn't involve taking away our green spaces, our playgrounds, our homes, OUR COMMUNITY!!

As I said earlier if you give them an inch, they WILL take a mile. Boundaries need to be set, standards need to be made. If we say NO, NO to any more support, NO to any more help, something's got to give. There is help for addiction, there are detox facilities. They don't want this. They want their needle delivery every week, to beg for spare cash for their next high, that's it! This won't ever change as they don't want to change if they did we would see more of a strain on the rehab clinics or MORE rehab clinics opening. They want what we are giving to them so freely and there is no desire to change. This will be the same cycle on repeat until we take a stand on what we are willing to put up with!!

I have included links to children that have been harmed due to paraphernalia as well as links to residents affected in London by similar housing issues:

<https://www.cnn.com/2017/07/19/health/miami-boy-overdose-fentanyl-bn/index.html>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/london-ontario-simcoe-crystal-palace-safe-consumption-1.4631725>

Needles and garbage here in Cambridge- Footage : <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/kitchener-waterloo/cambridge-volunteer-group-needle-clean-up-1.4369176>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o5KfjFHk9hE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmLiSnvYYo4>

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Good Morning

I am the corner lot on the same side as 15 Clover ave. I have been notified by letter that you wish to rezone this area.

I have a few requests that I would like considered.

1).... I have enjoyed 11 years of looking out my back yard to tree's and wild life... I would like a tree line between your development and my back yard. That would be the 25ft side yard allotment. not the 6ft proposal.

2)... every house on this street(even the 2 new houses that you had them keep their ZONE 4 for single family homes) matters nothing at this time . I would really like an answer to this as it is not fair to every person on this street.

Thank You for taking the time to look at this email.

I will be online Tuesday August 25th to listen in.

Scott McGowan

Our written statement of our letter we will be putting before council on Tuesday August 25, 2020.

Before beginning our views on 15 Clover Ave. We currently do not have representation on council for Ward 7. We believe this is not democratic. We believe that until our new Ward Councillor is chosen any and all decisions that effect Ward 7 should be postponed, especially of this magnitude. We as residents of Ward 7 believe we should have a vote in council, our ward is as important as each of the others!

Also zoom meetings can be problematic for people not familiar with computers. For people with hearing impairments, such as my husband. He attends meetings in person so to lip read or use enhanced hearing devices. It eliminates the opportunity for public input. Not doing the meeting in person with proper Covid 19 precautions of course, we the residents are just numbers. We are people with real concerns!!! We also wonder why the meeting is being held at 10am many of us have had to take a day off work. We are busy with our children etc during the day. Such meetings have been held at 7pm normally in the past. Why is this not the case this time? We believe all these factors limit we the residents to participate in this public meeting and find this not to be a democratic process.

With that being said here are some concerns we have as residents of this extremely SHORT 9 house DEAD END street!!!

Has there been an updated traffic study? With the increased traffic and round about at Myers and Franklin Blvd this has caused getting in and out of the street more difficult, as well as often almost being hit from behind as we are now so close to the round about. Speeding cars and high volume of traffic on Myers Rd has definitely increased and the development we believe will compound this problem due to the extra traffic and vehicles. We have a total of four schools within 2 km all on Myers Rd, two of which are elementary schools within a short distance of the street. What impact will this have on the safety of the children with all the extra vehicles travelling on Myers Rd do to the development?

Clover Ave is a VERY SHORT, QUIET, COUNTRY like setting that all of us bought our FOREVER homes on! With the large tree canape which was planted at a cost to the taxpayers, the development is set to CUT DOWN a MINIMUM of 80 TREES!!!! This would DEVASTATE the street surroundings let alone the natural benefit the trees have for the surrounding environment!!

At the end of Clover there is a pond which is home to many different animals and endangered Salamander species. What is the development going to do to this pond and it surrounding environment??? This pond is monitored by the Grand River Conservation Area.

We understand council would like to increase density yet if you look along Myers there has been plenty of development. A second six storey condo building built beside Cambridge Christian School, another condo building with approximately 96 5 stacked hometown blocks being built at 405 Myers Rd (Myers & Franklin) There have has been semis/townhomes at Myers and Lisbon Pines. The addition of a street (Shater Street) with approximately 30 homes and at the corner of Myers and Branchton another condo building is set to go up! We believe this 44 unit 4 stacked townhouse development DOES NOT belong on such a short street and we ask that you LEAVE the existing zoning YOU designated it as R4, R5 SINGLE FAMILY HOMES!!!!!!

As we expressed earlier we understand the city is growing and developing BUT REALISTICALLY on such a SHORT residential street adding that many townhomes honestly would be like living in a SARDINE CAN!!! we ask that you work WITH us on a solution for everyone. SINGLE DWELLING homes to retain the neighborhood and beauty of it. The original zoning that currently exists.

PLEASE work WITH us not AGAINST our WISHES!! Many of the residents were original owner of the properties and still are here after fifty years!!

Thank You for your time Mayor and Council.

Dawn & Frank Joseph

Good morning I would like to speak out on this development and hopefully it will be heard .

My brothers and I served 3 lots on Clover Ave. We tried for 4 lots .
We had to abide by rules to conform to existing street and zoning .
Points like, added traffic came up which didn't really apply as we lived in an old stone house for 30 plus years . to add 44 units that don't even come close to the existing landscape of the street is unacceptable . I get they have the right to apply but why not something that doesn't look completely different .I live on the corner with my son and can't imagine seeing traffic for 44 units come past my house everyday .Why do they require an amendment for setbacks to squeeze in the units to maximize profits . the city has these zoning rules for a reason and this proposal does not even come close to existing street of single family homes and 2 duplexes .
I have environmental concerns as well ,what about all the trees and the pond at the end of the street ,what will the impact of that be ..

Thanks for listening Rob Zakhary