



New Edinburgh Community Alliance
Alliance communautaire de New Edinburgh
(NECA)

www.newedinburgh.ca

April 22, 2020

Councillor Rawlson King
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1

Dear Councillor King,

I am writing you today as President of the New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA) to thank you for your hard work to keep Ottawa's residents safe during the current COVID-19 pandemic, and to request your support in **saying to no to further urban expansion and upholding the current urban boundary.**

During this term of Council, you have declared both a Climate Emergency and a Housing and Homelessness Emergency. We applaud these steps because they acknowledge what residents of Ottawa—including those in New Edinburgh—truly care about: the challenges of finding affordable and adequate shelter and the threats to health and safety posed by the climate crisis.

In keeping with these declarations, NECA and the New Edinburgh Environment Committee, urge you to vote for an Official Plan that does not require expansion of the urban boundary. We can no longer afford a pattern of urban development that extends municipal services further out, paves over farmland and rural areas needed by future generations of young farmers, compounds the problems of car dependency, and impedes our ability to meet critical city priorities: curbing greenhouse gas emissions and delivering financially sustainable public services.

We understand that saying no to urban boundary expansion means saying yes to more density in our urban community. However, we also understand that densification done right will allow us to invest in the type of housing, services and quality of life that every Ottawa resident deserves, including:

- The ability to walk or bike safely with our kids to our local school, parks, library, grocery store or transit.
- Access to more affordable housing options that allow us to downsize, or raise a growing family, close to where we currently live.
- The ability to buy fresh, local food and enjoy Ottawa's beautiful green spaces.
- The ability to grow fresh, local food and support the next generation of young farmers.

203 Stanley Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1M 1P2

We know we can achieve it all by investing in gentle- and medium-density development and high-quality urban design in our existing urban neighbourhoods and rural villages, while protecting and preserving our rural areas, and in particular, avoiding developer-driven projects that do not adhere to the urban design based zoning and infill by-laws established to protect the vibrancy of neighbourhoods and local communities.

We know you care deeply, as we do, about the affordability, livability and sustainability of our community—today and tomorrow. That's why we are urging you to **vote to maintain the current urban boundary in Ottawa's new Official Plan**. It's a critical decision to help us build the communities we want for our families, neighbours, and for future generations.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Parkanyi'.

Cindy Parkanyi
President, New Edinburgh Community Alliance

cc Mayor Jim Watson