

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

City of Calgary 800 Mcleod Trail S.E. Calgary, Alberta T2P2M5

Subject: Support for City-Wide Rezoning, Public Submission for April 22, 2024.

To the Members of Calgary City Council,

On behalf of Inn from the Cold, I am writing to express our strong support for the proposed citywide rezoning project aimed at implementing inclusionary zoning in Calgary. As an organization at the frontline of the housing crisis, we witness daily the challenges faced by the most vulnerable members of our community, particularly families who are struggling to find a safe and affordable place to call home.

In recent years, we have observed a troubling trend: the demand for our services has doubled, a stark testament to the growing housing crisis in our city. For too many families in Calgary, the idea of a home is far beyond reach, with affordable housing options becoming increasingly scarce. This crisis not only places immense stress on families and children but also on the support services and organizations that strive to assist them.

The move towards inclusionary zoning and city-wide rezoning represents a beacon of hope in addressing this critical issue. By increasing supply and opportunities for affordable housing, we can begin to alleviate the pressure on families in desperate need of stable housing. This policy is not just a step toward solving the housing affordability crisis; it is a stride toward building a more compassionate, inclusive, and supportive Calgary.

Inclusionary zoning aligns with our mission at Inn from the Cold by addressing the root causes of homelessness and providing a pathway toward stable and permanent housing for those in need. It will create homes in communities that are well served by transit with access to critical services families need to thrive. This will acknowledge the dignity of every individual and family, offering them a chance to rebuild their lives within a supportive community. As such, we implore the City Council to consider the profound impact that inclusionary zoning practices can have on the lives of countless Calgarians.

The housing crisis is a complex issue that requires a multifaceted approach. We believe that by working together—government, non-profit organizations, developers, and the community—we can create sustainable solutions that benefit all members of our society. The proposed rezoning

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Helping families, help themselves

initiative is a critical step in this direction, and we stand ready to support its implementation in any way we can.

On behalf of the 1,500 families, we serve each year, we urge City Council to move forward with this initiative, demonstrating bold leadership and a commitment to the well-being of all Calgarians.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this vital issue. We look forward to your positive action and are eager to continue our collaboration in making Calgary a city where everyone has a place to call home.

Sincerely,

Heather Morley Chief Executive Officer