



Date: May 9, 2025

Support Affordable Housing in Cambridge

Dear Mayor Liggett and Members of Cambridge City Council,

We, the members of **Citizens for Cambridge**, are writing to express our strong support for the proposed affordable housing development at the corner of Grand Ridge Drive and Cedar Creek Road. This initiative is a significant and positive step forward in addressing the critical need for affordable housing in our community.

The proposed plan to construct a **50-unit, four-storey apartment building** represents an efficient use of city-owned land to benefit our community directly. Cambridge's proactive approach in addressing housing affordability demonstrates responsible leadership and a clear commitment to public welfare.

Furthermore, we note the recent traffic study results, which indicate that this development will have **minimal impact on local traffic conditions**. This alleviates concerns about potential traffic disruptions and underscores the suitability of this site for new housing development.

Additionally, we want to address a common misconception surrounding affordable housing.

Numerous studies and expert analyses have consistently demonstrated that affordable housing does *not* degrade property values or negatively affect neighborhoods. According to the **Urban Land Institute**, *"Affordable housing has been found to have no negative impact on property values and can, in fact, contribute positively to neighborhood vitality."*

We also wish to highlight some successful precedents within our community—the affordable housing projects located at **175 and 195 Hespeler Road**, at the site of the former **Satellite Motel**. These successful projects demonstrate the tangible benefits and viability of affordable housing developments in enhancing community well-being.

Affordable housing forms the backbone of inclusive and vibrant communities by providing essential stability for individuals and families of diverse income levels. This project will not only fulfill a pressing community need but also stimulate economic activity and support social cohesion.

We encourage Council to approve this project and to continue prioritizing affordable housing initiatives. Your leadership in this crucial area is commendable and vital to fostering a welcoming and equitable city for all.

Sincerely,

Citizens for Cambridge

Dan Clements

Keith Rivers

Bob Howison

John Ego

Anne Tinker

June Anderson

Amanda Maxwell

Leanne Taylor-Shanks

Diane Goodwin

George Sousa

Peter Phillips

www.citizensforcambridge.org

info@citizensforcambridge.org

Improving the future of Cambridge as a community