

Councillor Request for Information

✓ Included on Agenda

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Thursday)

Added Item

(Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office
by Noon Monday)

Date of Council Meeting: June 24, 2008

Subject: Affordable Housing Provisions in Development Agreements

Request:

Please add the above item to the agenda for June 24, 2008. A recommendation report is requested on the above matter.

Reason:

I am seeking council's support in having staff review what amendments can be made to the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy to require provisions for affordable housing. I would like staff to review options similar to the parkland dedication program where larger developments would be required to provide lots and/or homes as affordable options. In single building projects, or smaller projects, I ask staff to explore whether a financial contribution can be made to a fund dedicated towards enabling affordable housing projects.

I would request that staff review systems used in other Canadian cities particularly usage of long term covenants on lots provided as affordable to prevent acquisition and resale of properties for profit (flipping).

As well, what is affordable is difficult and not well defined. Some Canadian municipalities have targeted \$160,000 as the house / lot sale price for a small house (FORUM magazine from FCM). I request that a determination of what could reasonably be considered affordable in HRM be considered, and how and if that value could be adjusted by CPI over time.

I would like this response as:

- Email to Mayor and / or Councillor / Municipal Clerk's Office
- Memo to Mayor and / or Councillor / Municipal Clerk's Office
- Information Report to Community Council Regional Council
- Recommendation Report to Community Council Regional Council

Jackie Barkhouse
Jackie Barkhouse

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Councillor

District (Number)