

Delegation

- **Name**
Mary Anne Silverthorn
- **Enter the date of the meeting you wish to present to council**
July meeting 13, 2023
- **Which is your preference for attending the meeting.**
In Person
- **Will there be anyone other than yourself addressing Council?**
Yes
- **Which is their preference for attending the meeting.**
In Person
- **Please provide the names of everyone who will be addressing Council.**
Mary Anne Silverthorn and Diane Harris
- **Use the space below to clearly outline your purpose for presenting to council. Provide a brief outline of your subject matter including your suggested outcome.**

We are 2 members of the Woodstock Non Profit Housing (WNPH) Board of Directors. Recently we opened a new residence at 1231 Nellis St. E,. On the day of the ribbon cutting ceremony (May 26) we were talking to several residents who expressed their enthusiasm for and the love of the new facility. They were extremely happy to have a safe place to live -- where they can experience the joy of independence while at the same time sharing activities and events with others who live in the building.. They are feeling very comfortable. However they had a major concern. For those who do not drive, nor own a vehicle or do not have the finances to travel by taxi regularly -- the closest bus stop is several blocks away. Presently, It is on the corner of Bysham and Lansdowne. For those who have mobility issues this is a problem. Even getting milk or medication, transportation is a problem.

For this reason -- to make life a little easier for these residents-- as a Board we request a change in or an additional bus stop closer to 1231 Nellis. St. allowing these residents easier access to a bus.

A letter from the Board outlining this request in full will be sent to each Councillor and other office /city personnel -- (CAO, Clerk Deputy Clerk, City Engineer and Transportation Manager.) prior o the Council meeting in July.

We realize this could necessitate some study and reporting prior to a decision

by Council. . We look forward to a positive solution to this situation for our residents prior to the onset of fall and winter weather.

- **Will you be providing any additional written information in addition to your summary above? If YES please note it must be provided to the Clerks department no later than 2:00pm on the Tuesday prior to the meeting**

Yes

- **Will you be providing any additional electronic information in addition to documents you will be attaching? If YES please note it must be provided to the Clerks department no later than 2:00pm on the Tuesday prior to the meeting**

No

- **Have you appeared before council to discuss the same topic in the past?**

No



June 12, 2023

To all Members of Woodstock City Council:

Friday May 26, 2023 was the ribbon cutting ceremony and official opening of the new Woodstock Non- Profit Housing (WNPH) facility at 1231 Nellis St. E. This build was a dream of the WNPH Board of Directors in partnership with the County of Oxford and the City of Woodstock. Construction began in 2021 and residents began to move into the units at the beginning of 2023. On the day of the opening 72 units are rented and occupied.

Arriving for the event were architects, contractors and many tradespeople who were a part of the build. In addition, many County and City officials including Councillors attended the ribbon cutting followed by refreshments and tours. Many proud residents joined the proceedings and at refreshment time it was delightful to hear the stories from the residents – stories included their journey to arrive at 1231 Nellis including being homeless and qualifying for a unit. Many with mobility issues talked about all the modern conveniences that are within the units allowing each resident to function with ease. Smiling residents indicated they are happy, and feel safe as they make new friends.

In the conversations with the residents there was a common concern. For those who do not drive or have a vehicle, transportation is a great concern since the City bus does not come near. Some with mobility issues, others who are somewhat inactive have great difficulty shopping for necessities. Getting basics such as milk/bread requires a trip – Sobey's being the closest grocery store. The common concern was -- when will the bus come out here? For many, cab fare would be very costly and inconvenient.

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As a Board we seek support from the City Council and others who make these kinds of transportation decisions to review the bus transportation routes and include a stop at 1231 Nellis or much closer than at the corner of Bysham Park and Lansdowne. There is a shelter at that location but it is a long walk from there to 1231 Nellis St. The most current transportation schedule dated August 2021, picked up at City Hall on May 31, clearly has no bus stop in the vicinity.

Our ask as a Board is for a review of the transportation deficiency and hopefully a **bus stop near 1231 Nellis St.** will be provided as soon as possible – definitely prior to colder weather and/or stormy days with the arrival of fall.

In addition to the location of the bus stop the Board request the City Council to enact a **by-law** to enforce no parking in the court to allow for a turning radius for the buses.

Thank you sincerely for your consideration of these matters.

Woodstock Non-Profit Housing Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors are:

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Mary Anne Silverthorn – Vice Chair - m.silverthorn@sympatico.ca

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