

PKTS. 10-19-18

Fw: Affected Neighborhood Issue

Tasheik Kerr

to:

Diane R Voss

10/16/2018 03:25 PM

Hide Details

From: Tasheik Kerr/COA

To: Diane R Voss/COA@COA

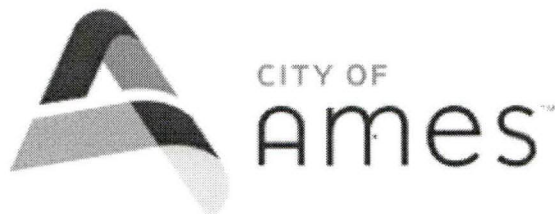
-----Forwarded by Tasheik Kerr/COA on 10/16/2018 03:24PM -----

To: Tasheik Kerr/COA@COA
From: Chris Nelson/COA
Date: 10/16/2018 03:20PM
Subject: Fw: Affected Neighborhood Issue

Tasheik-

I think this should (?) be on the non-agenda referral list? He did ask Council for action. Thanks!

Chris



Chris Nelson
City Council - Ward 4

515.203.2044 main

cnelson@city.ames.ia.us | City Hall, 515 Clark Avenue | Ames, IA 50010

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-----Forwarded by Chris Nelson/COA on 10/16/2018 03:19PM -----

To: MayorCouncil@city.ames.ia.us
From: "Jeremy Davis" <jeremyndavis@gmail.com>
Date: 10/08/2018 03:36PM
Cc: "Steve Schainker" <SSchainker@city.ames.ia.us>
Subject: Affected Neighborhood Issue

Mayor, Council and City Manager:

Good afternoon. It has come to my attention, via an email from SCAN last night, that the application window for rental properties in the affected neighborhoods has closed. This was somewhat surprising for me to see, considering those of us who have homes in the affected neighborhoods were not informed that the application window had even been 'opened'.

As you'll note on the City of Ames website for "City News & Updates" (<https://www.cityofames.org/about-ames/city-news-updates>) there are several news items listed from 8-3-2018 up to 10-3-2018. None of these news updates provides notice to the public that the application window for rental LOCs exemptions was opened for the affected

neighborhoods.

With such a significant restriction enacted via the new Rental Concentration Cap, I believe the City of Ames may have erred in properly notifying the property owners within the affected neighborhoods regarding the application window opening/closing dates.

While I understand that the City Council minutes are a source-point of official notification for the City of Ames, property owners of the affected neighborhoods would not have been able to access the minutes of the August 28, 2018 meeting until/on-or-around September 11, 2018 as that is the date which the August 28, 2018 minutes were approved.

As such, when reading the minutes from the August 28 meeting, it states "2. Change the application deadline from September 1, 2018, to 30 days from the effective date of the ordinance." Thus, unless you are an individual who is well-versed in the City Ordinance adopted processes (in particular since a reading of the ordinance was waived as well as the uncertainty created by the initial Veto by Mayor Haila), it is likely most individuals would not specifically know the process to identify the enactment date of an ordinance which would then subsequently trigger the 30 day application window. In fact, it would be reasonable for an individual who read the minutes following the September 11, 2018 meeting to rationally assume adoption occurred on September 11th.

While I understand the City Council's goal (as stated by several of Council members) is to restrict rentals in the affected neighborhoods--the process by which the City embarked upon the opening/closing of the application window was not as transparent as it should have been, since the City may have erred in properly notifying the property owners in the affected neighborhoods of the application window time-frame.

Therefore, I request that the City Council re-open the application window for the affected neighborhoods with proper public notification of such action and a clearly specified application window time-frame that is publicized via the City News & Updates on the City of Ames website. While this request may not result in any new applications, I believe it is in the best interest of the City that this process be as transparent as possible to all affected homeowners in the affected neighborhoods and that they each be given a proper opportunity to submit an application. In fact, since the City notified each property owner (in writing) in April that the Council was contemplating placing a rental cap on affected neighborhoods, it may be equally prudent to provide such written notification of an application time-frame to each affected property owner so as each property owner can then make a decision based upon official, written notice from the City of Ames. By providing official, written notice to each affected property owner, the City would then bring closure to this process that has, unfortunately, resulted in several disagreements between neighbors and some once-strong friendships ended.

Thank you for your consideration. In the interest of full-disclosure, yes, I am a homeowner in the SCAN neighborhood as well as a former member of the Ames City Council.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Davis
711 Beach Avenue
Ames, Iowa. 50014