From:

Sent:

April 10, 2022 11:17 PM

To:

Office of the Legislative Counsel

Cc:

info@alidualemla.ca; garyburrillmla@gmail.com; 'Olga Milosevich'

Subject:

Submission on Bill 137 (Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (amended))

** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE **

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Dear Chair Mr. Brad Johns & Members of the Law Amendments Committee,

I am writing to oppose key provisions of Bill 137 - Halifax Regional Municipality Charter (amended). I certainly agree that there is a housing crisis, and that some urgent steps are needed to address this crisis. But I strongly disagree that removing a proposed development plan to a community council or advisory Committee for review before HRM Council makes a final decision is not the right and proper course of action. If anything, I think we need more public and citizen input on new housing developments, not less such input. In my view, this proposed move would be a very regressive step that would take us backwards, not forward to ensuring broad and systemic public consultation.

I participated in a rally in Halifax on Saturday morning against the swift and rapid demolition of long-standing housing at the expense of more widespread and affordable housing, the environment and increased congestion. We need more public consultation to ensure these kind of blockbusting developments do not increase and become more widespread.

I am writing to urge that these provisions of the Bill are completely withdrawn, in favour of allowing more extensive and systematic public participation in the process and approval of new housing development plans.

Yours sincerely.

Ian Johnson