

Tarra Jolly

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support - ADU Ordinance Amendments

From: Adam from Better Home Rental <adam@betterhomerental.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 2:26 PM

To: Tarra Jolly <tarraj@cityofws.org>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter of Support - ADU Ordinance Amendments

Dear Members of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning Board:

I am writing to express my strong support for today's staff-proposed ordinance amendment permitting Accessory Dwelling Units by right (public hearing item #5) in Winston-Salem.

My family owns a small home rental operation that is primarily based in the South Ward. We have grown from renting one local single family home to 8 over the last decade. After graduating and leaving Winston-Salem to start a career, this enterprise brought me back to the community, along with my family.

These ordinance amendments would not only increase *our* ability to provide housing options at affordable price points, but it would give many more Winston-Salem residents the opportunity to invest in themselves and become local entrepreneurs. The benefits of building neighborhoods with diverse housing options are not limited to developers and landlords, though. It also means more residents can have lasting affordability for their housing, while maintaining easy access to all the city has to offer, from schools, parks, local employers, and businesses.

By allowing ADU construction with minimal red tape, residents currently living in single-family homes that are sought after by growing families can find desirable and affordable ways to downsize, either by building an ADU for themselves or a loved one on their property, or by finding one in an area that meets their needs.

After reading a related article in the Winston-Salem Journal, I would also like to suggest Accessory Dwelling Units can reduce car-dependence and increase walkability. One of our single-family properties is currently adjacent to retail, restaurants, and a WSTA bus line. Enabling an ADU to be built on this lot without rezoning means that additional residents who do not or cannot drive--people like my own mother-in-law who lives with me--will have affordable access to services and opportunities that may not be within reach of their current homes.

Change is never easy, but much of Winston-Salem's economic success (and our family's ability to share in that success) has been based on being a place where housing for all budgets is attainable. Advancing today's proposed ordinance amendment will be an important first step to allowing even more residents to find affordable housing that meets their needs, while increasing Winston-Salem's quality of life in the decades to come.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Sincerely,

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