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"Michel Bourgeois"  
**Cc:** [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)  
**Subject:** Planning and Heritage Committee re-instatement amendment and motion  
**Date:** February 7, 2025 12:04:51 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Esteemed Mayor and Councillors,

Because of the deadline of 12 noon to submit emails after having read Jane Davis excellent email, I fully subscribe to each of her points and I borrow the body of her email to express timely my same disappointment

In the amendment to a motion that effectively removed the functionality and purpose of the Planning and Advisory Committee.

Requesting this Council to reverse that decision back to the form, purpose and functionality the PAC HAC had previous to Jan 28, 2025,

So, I am writing to express my profound disappointment in the recent decision to reduce citizen membership on the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee by an overwhelming 70%. This decision is a significant step backward in ensuring transparency, accountability, and community engagement in municipal planning and heritage preservation.

Citizen members bring diverse perspectives, expertise, and lived experiences that complement professional and political viewpoints. Their involvement fosters accountability, promotes balanced decision-making, and enhances public trust in municipal processes. A reduction in their representation—particularly through a process that does not adhere to proper procedural requirements—risks weakening these contributions and diminishing public confidence in the committee's work.

Citizen participation is the cornerstone of democratic governance. The voices of engaged residents help shape the future of our municipality, ensuring that development aligns with community needs and values. By drastically cutting citizen representation, you have weakened the integrity of this committee, limiting diverse perspectives and effectively marginalizing the very people who are most impacted by planning decisions.

This decision not only disregards the fundamental principles of public consultation but also raises serious concerns about the motivations behind reducing community input. Rather than encouraging greater civic involvement, this action alienates residents who seek to contribute their knowledge, passion, and expertise to the well-being of our municipality.

Furthermore, the lack of proper notice and public discussion surrounding this decision is deeply troubling. Meaningful policy changes should be conducted with transparency and in full view of the community, not behind closed doors or through rushed motions that curtail public discourse. The neglect for due process erodes trust in this Council and calls into question its commitment to serving

the public rather than special interests.

I strongly urge you to reconsider and reverse this decision in the interest of good governance and public trust. The role of elected officials is to serve the community, not to silence it. Restoring full citizen participation on the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee would demonstrate a genuine commitment to inclusive decision-making and respect for public input.

I as well request a response outlining how the Council intends to address these concerns and ensure that citizen voices remain an integral part of our municipality's future planning. I look forward to your reply and to seeing concrete steps toward restoring meaningful community representation.

Thank you kindly,  
Guido Guide Furlani

**Guide G Furlani PCC, ECPC, TICC, MHFA, MNLP**

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*"..Truth. The most elusive quest of human consciousness. Yet, once decided as one's primary Driver allows somewhat to tap the Field of "Silent Knowledge". Thus with Courage some move onward with Clarity and Integrity in freeing human perception from the clutter of stifling beliefs... – This among many, the most important of 'the King's signs'. – This alone, the supreme mark of the Timeless Leader".*

*~ Guide G. Furlani ~*