

COW, May 13, 2024

EICS-10-24

Correspondence from Hugh and Brenda Kent

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5/7/2024

To the Committee of the Whole

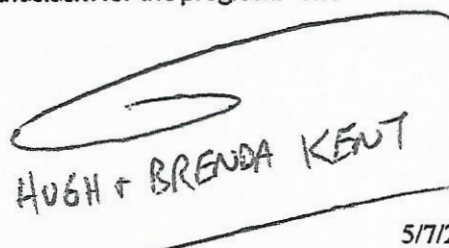
Re: Better Homes Burlington report EICS - ¹⁰~~08-24~~

We write this letter today in strong support of the Better Homes Burlington (BHB) program. When it was time to replace our HVAC system the combination of the BHB and the HER+ programs tipped the economic balance in favour of the investment in an energy efficient heat pump system for our home. Had it not been for the BHB and HER+ programs we likely would have settled for a less expensive, less efficient system that might not even have been a heat pump. Heat pumps are expensive but they are a smart investment in efficiency, sustainability and overall eco friendliness which our community dearly needs more of.

The BHB program is a tangible way for the City to invest a relatively small amount of money to assist homeowner residents caught in the same HVAC predicament we faced when having to replace a furnace or an air conditioner. Can the homeowner afford to make the decision to invest in an efficient heat pump or must they "settle" for something costing less up front but what will in fact cost them more over the life of the equipment with the added negative impact on the environment? I submit resident homeowners want to do the right thing and invest in a heat pump provided they can afford it.

We believe that if the BHB program is approved to continue, and is expanded, then the cumulative effect of converting resident households by dozens each year will over time add up to a significant positive environmental impact for our city.

We found the application process for the BHB program to be straight forward and clear. The approval process and ultimate funding timeframe was much more efficient than the Federal Government HER+ program and kudos to the City for that. Further, compliments to Lauren McAusland, the BHB Coordinator for her professionalism, responsiveness and overall knowledge and enthusiasm for the program. The City is very well represented by her.


HUGH & BRENDA KENT

5/7/2024, 2:53 PM