

## Debra Thompson

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**From:** Sarah Fine <sarah@finewalshlaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 29, 2022 8:05 PM  
**To:** Assembly  
**Cc:** Debra Thompson; Stephen Giesbrecht  
**Subject:** Housing Work Session

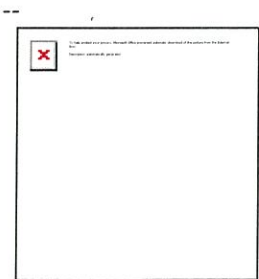
Dear Assembly:

In follow up to this evening's work session. One area I would like to see the task force address is using, renovating, or updating existing downtown properties for rent and/or for emergency transitional housing. We discussed the Green Building (the old OBI bunkhouse) of course, but there are other downtown options to explore as well.

Many commercial properties on Main Street have unused space on the top floor that could be used for living space but is not able to be rented out for one reason or another. I believe there is a role for the Borough to play here in opening these properties back up for rent or for use as emergency transitional housing. Some sort of local fund or tax credit to incentivize necessary repairs, for example, could be worth exploring. Frankly I would be very supportive of using Borough tax dollars to invest in Main Street properties and Main Street housing. It would pay dividends to our community for years and years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Fine-Walsh



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