To: clerks@newmarket.ca

CC: Christina Bisanz, Ward 7 Councillor

CC: Jay & Shawna Ciccarelli

RE: Request for Exemption from Interim By-Law 2019-04 Decision – June 22, 2020 164 Beechwood Crescent - Town File No.: 3 ICBEX 02-2020.

Mayor John Taylor & Newmarket Councillors,

We are 30-year residents of Newmarket and have enjoyed a long and valuable friendship with Jay and Shawna Ciccarelli, meeting as community volunteers in the Newmarket Minor Hockey Association.

We are appalled that Council refused to follow the recommendation of its own planning staff in denying the exemption sought at the Committee of the Whole Meeting above. We have read the NewmarketToday ca. article regarding the meeting, as well as the application, Staff Planning Report to Council, and appendices in their entirety.

We ask that Council immediately reconsider this poorly rendered decision and grant the exemption to the interim by-law. It is clear from the discussions held at the meeting that Councillors were focused upon opposition to the exemption from some neighbouring residents, while failing to appreciate that the Ciccarelli's are new homeowners within the neighbourhood and have not been given the opportunity to forge the friendship and community bonds they hold dear, notwithstanding the pandemic emergency. This is a family that plays by the rules, and would NEVER seek to threaten the existing character of the home elevations or area architecture with a "monster home" renovation, let alone the tree canopy as suggested by one opponent.

We point out that for every resident opposed to the exemption within deputations, there was a resident in favour of granting the exemption. These submissions were not given equal weight by Councillors.

Council appeared to ignore the Ciccarelli's oral submissions at the June 22 meeting, as well as the fact and evidence-based analysis of the Staff Planning Report. Instead, they chose to politicize this decision to appease those residents who are opposed, but cannot state appropriate grounds for their opposition.

We are particularly upset that our Ward 7 Councillor Bisanz voted against granting the exemption. She should be keenly aware of how planning recommendations face peril if they are ignored, given the Glenway re-development debacle.

We therefore urge Council to grant the exemption sought to the interim by-law to allow the project to proceed at 164 Beechwood Crescent.

Yours truly,

Glen & Christine Parnell