DE13-142

December 11, 2013

City of Regina Queen Elizabeth II Court 2476 Victoria Avenue PO Box 1790 Regina SK S4P 3C8

Attention: Mavis Torres

Request to appear before City Council

Please accept this letter as a request for permission to appear as a delegation before Regina City Council at their December 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

We would like to speak about the SomerSet Plan being considered before Council, and request that our delegation is given the last speaking position – after our consultant James Pernu of McElhanney Consulting Services – on this topic.

Please find attached a copy of our presentation.

Yours truly,

Bobby Pawar

Attachment: Presentation

cc: Amber Smale, City of Regina Jeremy Fenton, City of Regina James Pernu, McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd.

## PRESENTATION TO REGINA MAYOR AND COUNCIL DECEMBER 16, 2013 SOMERSET NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CITY OF REGINA

Good Evening your Worship, members of council, staff and members of the public.

My name is Bobby Pawar and I want to thank you for the opportunity to convey our thoughts as to our development "Somerset" and all the positive things it can offer the City of Regina. I have a Masters Degree in Business Strategic Management and work full time in the development industry throughout Western Canada. For the last 6 years I along with my colleagues have had the privilege of working on a variety of projects in Saskatchewan with a majority of my time being spent in Regina.

We currently own and operate businesses in Regina and have always enjoyed an excellent relationship with the people we deal with and have been fortunate to develop a number of long-standing friendships. From these experiences we have learned to gauge the community and its needs in a more detailed way. So when we started the process of Somerset over four years ago we believed that a project such as this could bring about numerous positive and innovative changes while addressing some long standing needs in the area of housing for the City.

Somerset is Dynamic, Progressive, Safe, Sustainable, Affordable and Logical. These are not only my words but terms used by residents whom we heard from at the public information sessions, supporters we heard from at the RPC meeting and from small business owners and community advocates that have seen and understand our vision and plan for Somerset.

During the course of developing our plan we engaged, on our own initiative, with many stakeholders, agencies and individuals, such as Mr. Larry Hiles from RROC (Regina Regional Opportunities Commission), formerly known as REDA (Regina Economic Development Association), as well as Saskatchewan Housing Corp.

I would also like to acknowledge City staff and administration who have worked diligently with us to provide their expertise and guidance to help craft a plan that we are extremely proud of.

People are coming to Regina for reasons such as the City's strong economic market, excellent educational opportunities and social + recreational opportunities. Regina is being recognized nationally and internationally as a premier place to live.

Housing availability has a huge impact on housing affordability. This has caused affordability and availability to become issues for residents and new comers to the City. To handle this growth pressure, building out a neighborhood like SomerSet every year just to keep pace with the current rate of population growth is a reality.

With the Somerset neighborhood plan, the City has an opportunity to help manage growth and housing issues.

Thank you for your time and consideration.