

Not city's job to inform residents of zoning appeal: councillor

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[CBC News](#)

Residents of a trailer park are complaining they were left in the dark about a zoning decision affecting their future, but Charlottetown city councillor Mitch Tweel says it's not council's responsibility to inform citizens of appeal processes.



Mitch Tweel says council did everything it could on behalf of the trailer park residents. (CBC)

The Island Regulatory and Appeals Commission recently overturned a city council zoning decision, allowing a developer to shut down a trailer park and build condominiums. Residents of Idlewheels Trailer Court are upset they could now be forced to move.

The city was represented at the appeal, but no one from the trailer park was even told about it. Tweel told CBC News Thursday it's not up to him or council to tell residents about IRAC appeals.

"I don't think that's council's responsibility. IRAC made the decision. I think the onus is on the body that made the decision," said Tweel. "We did everything we could."

IRAC said it posts all appeals on its website, but it takes no responsibility for informing residents directly.

The developer has no immediate plans to start construction. If he does choose to go ahead, the residents will be given six months notice.

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[hmm.mm](#) wrote: Posted 2008/07/21

at 11:00 AM ET "I don't think that's council's responsibility. IRAC made the decision. I think the onus is on the body that made the decision," said Tweel. "We did everything we could."

<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/council>

coun-cil (kounsl)

1.
 - a. An assembly of persons called together for consultation, deliberation, or discussion.
 - b. A body of people elected or appointed to serve as administrators, legislators, or advisors.
 - c. An assembly of church officials and theologians convened for regulating matters of doctrine and discipline.
2. The discussion or deliberation that takes place in such an assembly or body.

Who represents the citizens of Charlottetown? You know, the ones paying the taxes? Let's see...a dictionary would lead me to believe that the 'council' of the city might have a certain moral, if not obligatory, responsibility to advise its people of what is going on?

And IRAC, you've been hosing Islanders based on hurricanes that haven't even blown yet, give us a hand here, eh?!

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[JamesHaven](#) wrote: Posted 2008/07/20

at 3:15 PM ET Surely the world must be coming to an end when even Mitch Tweel won't stand up for the working class among us.

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[S. Pickett](#) wrote: Posted 2008/07/20

at 1:49 PM ET I work in the development industry (although not on the Island) and I am shocked to here IRAC say it is not their responsibility to give notice. I fully support a property owner's right to develop land. Land rights are incredibly important and it could be the case that this is a very appropriate use for this property. However, SO IS A PROPER PROCESS. It sounds like IRAC is completely deflecting their responsibility to represent citizens. First of all, it is a little odd to consider that all people, even in this day and age, have internet access. Secondly, where I work ,the notice provided for an issue like this is three-fold - newspaper, letter to residents within a certain radius, and a sign is posted on the property. If the same situation happened here, the only reason a resident would not get a notice would be if they were renting - only property owners are sent notice by mail - However, the other two means are still pretty effective. Very unfortunate.

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[Comefromaway](#) wrote: Posted 2008/07/19

at 11:13 PM ET Gosh...Mitch Tweel for once NOT in the forefront of yammering away to the media/people on the street/anyone who might listen about the rights of his constituents like a SUN columnist on steroids. Why so self-effacing and quiet about the meeting? Why no leading the Idle Wheelers on a march to City Hall with placards and bullhorns. Could it be that you are secretly happy to see the back of the IW crowd? Is there something that Frank Magazine should know? Surely not!

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[JohnJenkins](#) wrote: Posted 2008/07/19

at 12:50 AM ET Not the councils job? you need new councillors, people who can keep in touch with the public.

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