

June 17, 2008

To: Community Development and Recreation Committee

From: Tenant Defence Sub-Committee

Subject: **Installation of Smart Meters in Rental Units and Its Impacts on Tenant Affordability**

Committee Recommendation:

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee recommended to the Community Development and Recreation Committee that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to consult and seek further input from the landlord and tenant communities and other stakeholders as appropriate on the installation of smart meters in residential rental units and the impact of such initiatives on tenant affordability, and report back to the next meeting of the Tenant Defence Sub-Committee.
2. City Council request the Province of Ontario to:
 - a. Consider and explore possible ways of implementing a form of mandatory oversight in cases of voluntary smart-meter conversion, which includes:
 - (i) ensuring that rent reductions are calculated fairly; and
 - (ii) ensuring that tenants are fully informed of their rights under s.125 of the *Residential Tenancies Act* (RTA); and
 - b. Put on hold the installation of "smart meters" in residential rental units until such time as the City has thoroughly considered all the outstanding issues, and appropriate legislative amendments and/or regulations have been brought into force by the provincial government.

Background:

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee on Tuesday, June 17, 2008, considered a report (June 12, 2008) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division, regarding the Installation of Smart Meters in Residential Rental Units and Its Impacts on Tenant Affordability.

The Tenant Defence Sub-Committee also considered the following:

- (a) report (April 18, 2008) from the General Manager, Shelter, Support & Housing Administration; and
- (b) letter (February 11, 2008) from Susanne Maguire, Vice-President, Marketing and Administration, addressed to residents of 55 Emmet Avenue, submitted by Councillor Nunziata.

Katherine Chislett, Director, Housing & Homelessness Supports & Initiatives, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division, gave a presentation on this matter.

Speakers

Peter Mills, Chief Operating Officer, Stratacon Inc., who filed a submission.
Brad Butt, Greater Toronto Apartment Association
Marjorie Small
Tim O'Rourke

City Clerk

Maria Kolominsky
Item 2

Attachment