



Mayor's Report

Mayor's Tower Renewal Leaders

Date:	August 19, 2008
To:	Executive Committee
From:	Mayor Miller
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The Mayor of Toronto's Tower Renewal Leaders program celebrates the contributions of individual Torontonians in transforming mid-century high-rise buildings and their surrounding sites into sustainable communities.

Sustainable communities operate to the highest environmental standards and are characterized by community inclusion and cohesion, strong local economic development, vibrant cultural activities and beautiful public space.

Tower Renewal Leaders have committed to achieving a tangible result relating to at least one of the four pilot sites. Each commitment is a fundamental part of delivering Tower Renewal and the first round of commitments are for a 12 to 18 month period.

Tower Renewal Leaders will take action and in so doing, will inspire and empower others to do the same.

COMMENTS

City of Toronto divisions and agencies will continue to play a central role in the delivery of Mayor's Tower Renewal in areas that are at the heart of the City's core business, including but not but not limited to, social and community development, land use planning, parks and recreation, solid waste management, transportation, housing, urban forestry, economic development, intergovernmental relations and public infrastructure. The Tower Renewal Office will work closely with the Mayor's Tower Renewal Leaders to maximize benefits and avoid duplication of efforts.

To be successful, Tower Renewal requires strong support from community leaders from all walks of life, particularly in areas that are not part of the City's day-to-day operations. Many of the commitments are linked and will serve as an example of what can be done when people work together for positive results. The formation of the Mayor's Tower Renewal Leaders group is on-going.

Examples of areas where contributions are under discussion include:

Local Green Jobs – local green job creation strategy and associated training programs will help supply the skills that are needed to implement green technology and other on-site Mayor's Tower Renewal requirements. Mayor's Tower Renewal leaders are currently determining how to best achieve this goal at the pilot sites.

Smart Buildings – minimizing energy use based on how a building is currently occupied generating information about how all the energy consuming elements of a building are performing is generally known as making a building "smarter". The feedback systems allows residents and owners to understand and time energy use to gain maximum economic and environmental benefits. One Mayor's Tower Renewal Leader is working to identify the best approach for converting concrete high-rise buildings into smart buildings and is committed to implementing the approach at one of the pilot sites.

Neighbourhood Ecology and Mapping – One Mayor's Tower Renewal Leader will work with the local community to develop ideas and deliver improved the accessibility and walkability at a minimum of one Mayor's Tower Renewal pilot site.

Fostering Neighbourhood Markets – improved pedestrian-oriented public life and access to affordable fresh food markets would greatly improve the vitality of many Mayor's Tower Renewal sites. A Mayor's Tower Renewal Leader will spearhead the design, development and creation of a neighbourhood market incubator that will maximize the ground-level potential of existing apartments, commercial or civic buildings, and the surrounding landscape.

Use of New Green Technology – the scale of the Mayor’s Tower Renewal provides an opportunity to use and promote proven local green technologies on buildings and sites. A Mayor’s Tower Renewal Leader will identify and evaluate the implementation of the most appropriate local new green technology at selected pilot sites.

The creation of Tower Renewal Leaders is in response to the outpouring of interest and support for Mayor’s Tower Renewal from those who share a passion for strengthening liveability and prosperity across the entire City of Toronto.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mayor David Miller