

Ref: 2009-30

January 27, 2009

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

In accordance with Section 27-65C(3) of Chapter 27, Council Procedures, the attached Motion headed "Endorse Federal Government's Economic Stimulus for Renovation and Building of Social Housing in Toronto", moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Stintz, is referred to the Executive Committee.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd

Attachment

NOTICE OF MOTION

Endorse Federal Government's Economic Stimulus for Renovation and Building of Social Housing in Toronto		
Moved by:	Councillor Walker	
Seconded by:	Councillor Stintz	

SUMMARY:

On January 26, 2009 the media announced some details of the stimulus package to be proposed by the Federal government in its 2009 Budget; the proposed Federal Budget will be fully disclosed on January 27, 2009.

Apparently, there are many potentially positive implications for the City of Toronto to be contained in this 2009 Federal Budget. In particular, the proposed Budget will include boosted funding for social housing: \$1 Billion in funding for renovating social housing; \$600 Million for on-reserve aboriginal housing; and \$400 Million for seniors' housing. The City of Toronto's share of this \$1 Billion in proposed funding for social housing would be approximately \$120 Million.

This proposed funding to refurbish and augment existing social housing is one of the best ways to inject budget stimulus funding into the economy since, after the funding is transferred, all that is needed to start such projects is for the building permit to be issued; the City of Toronto could issue building permits for the repair of Toronto's social housing easily and quickly; also, the housing sector has experienced a great decrease in activity over 2008 and this would provide jobs to those employees who have lost employment due to the decrease in activity in this sector.

In light of our current \$300 Million - \$350 Million backlog in repairs for our social housing portfolio, City Council needs to show its strong support for such funding in a timely manner. We, as a Council, need to endorse these proposals to provide much needed funding to renovate and repair Toronto's social housing stock.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council endorse the proposed 2009 Federal Budget in so far as it pertains to social housing funding proposals and request that this funding be immediately applied to rebuilding the Toronto Community Housing Corporation's (TCHC) rental housing units in order to provide for tenants a reasonable expectation of

quality of life today and attempt to address the current backlog for State of Good Repair (SOGR) maintenance in its housing stock, most particularly the 326 apartment units and 45 single-family homes the TCHC proposed to sell but recently deferred the sale of.

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