

Ward 18, Davenport  
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West  
2nd Floor, Suite C42  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Tel.: 416-392-7012  
Fax: 416-392-7957  
councillor\_bailao@toronto.ca



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Dear Executive Committee Members:

Re: Affordable Housing Client Survey: Request to Assist Applicants under the Federal Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program

I am writing in response to recent requests for assistance by eligible clients of the federal Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP). As you may be aware the City is currently transitioning from RRAP to the new Toronto Renovates Program.

In February 2012 City Council approved funding allocations under the new federal/ provincial *Investment in Affordable Housing* program (IAH), including \$11.2 million for a new home renovation initiative, Toronto Renovates, scheduled to begin in the spring of 2013

Toronto Renovates replaces the popular federal Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, which has paid for home health and safety repairs for low and moderate-income homeowners and affordable rental landlords since 1973. While the RRAP ended on March 31, 2012 the federal government transferred funding and responsibility for renovation activities to the provinces.

It is now known that as of the end of March 31, 2012 some 350 applications from eligible low and moderate-income Toronto homeowners were unable to be funded prior to the program being transferred.

After consultation with the Director of the Affordable Housing Office, and in response to the many public inquiries the City has received, I am writing to request that the Executive Committee direct the Affordable Housing Office to institute an interim home renovation program using the approved federal/provincial funding from the IAH program to alleviate the hardship faced by the households whose applications were declined.

This interim home renovation program would permit staff to review and consider for funding the outstanding eligible homeowner applications filed prior to March 31, 2012 and use the existing RRAP funding guidelines and loan amounts.

The federal/provincially funded Toronto Renovates program would begin under new guidelines, and as directed by City Council, later in 2013 once the existing RRAP applications are resolved.

The Toronto Renovates program will have a focus on seniors and persons with a disability as well as renovations to affordable rental housing.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council direct the Director, Affordable Housing Office to process the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) applications which were filed by eligible homeowners prior to March 31, 2012 using Council-approved federal/provincial funding from the *Investment in Affordable Housing Program* and in accordance with RRAP funding guidelines and loan amounts.

Ana Bailão  
Chair, Affordable Housing Committee  
City Councillor, Ward 18