

Putting People First – Update

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| Date: | June 11, 2013 |
| To: | Affordable Housing Committee |
| From: | Sean Gadon, Director, Affordable Housing Office |
| Wards: | All |
| Reference Number: | 17885 |

SUMMARY

In October 2012, Council adopted *Putting People First, Transforming Toronto Community Housing* that contained recommendations on an immediate two-year funding strategy for repairs, a five-year capital financing plan and a strategy to re-engage the federal and provincial governments to fund social housing.

Council requested an update report on recommendations 1, 3 and 8 for consideration by the Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee in June 2013. This includes establishing a specialized unit and structure to manage the retained single-family homes, conversion of up to 100 Toronto Community Housing (TCH) homes to home ownership and progress on generating funds over the next two years to address TCH's repair backlog.

The City has convened an Interdivisional Staff Working Group and is working in partnership with TCH on the follow up to the report, including recommendations 1, 3 and 8. In light of ongoing staff work, the update report has been deferred to the Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee to September 2013. The City Manager will also report on follow-up on other Working Group recommendations in September.

Financial Impact

There is no financial impact resulting from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on October 30, 31 and November 1, 2012 City Council adopted *Putting People First, Transforming Toronto Community Housing – Special Housing Working Group's report* (EX23.4). The report contained recommendations to address the significant repair backlog at Toronto Community Housing, including immediate two-year funds, a five-year capital financing plan and a strategy to re-engage federal and provincial governments in funding social housing. A number of recommendations were referred to the City Manager's Office for review and further reporting to Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.EX23.4>

At its meeting on April 3 and 4, 2013 City Council adopted *Infrastructure Ontario Refinancing of Toronto Community Housing Mortgages* (EX29.2) that recommended Infrastructure Ontario mortgage refinancing to unlock \$93.5 million of Toronto Community Housing equity to address the repair needs of its social housing portfolio.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2013.EX29.2>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

In October 2012, City Council adopted *Putting People First, Transforming Toronto Community Housing – Special Housing Working Group's report*.

The report contained recommendations to address the significant capital repair backlog at Toronto Community Housing, including immediate generation of funds over the next two years, a five-year capital financing plan and a strategy to re-engage federal and provincial governments in funding social housing. A number of recommendations were referred to the City Manager's Office for review and further reporting to Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee.

Council requested City Staff provide an update report on recommendations 1, 3 and 8 to the Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee in June 2013. This includes establishing a specialized unit and structure to manage the retained single-family homes, conversion of up to 100 TCH homes to home ownership and progress on generating funds over the next two years to address TCH's repair backlog.

COMMENTS

The partnership between the City of Toronto and Toronto Community Housing to implement the report has resulted in several important outcomes including generating more than \$156 million for repairs to TCH through mortgage refinancing from Infrastructure Ontario and the sale of 111 TCH homes.

The City has convened an Interdivisional Staff Working Group in partnership with TCH on the follow up to the report, including recommendations 1, 3 and 8. In light of ongoing staff work, the City Manager has deferred *Putting People First* update reports to the Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee to September 2013.

In addition, the Chair of the Affordable Housing Committee, Councillor Ana Bailáo, in partnership with TCH, will be launching the 'Close the Housing Gap' social housing campaign in June.

CONCLUSION

City staff will provide *Putting People First, Transforming Toronto Community Housing* update report on recommendations 1, 3 and 8 to the Affordable Housing Committee and Executive Committee in September 2013. The City Manager will also report on follow-up to other Working Group recommendations in September.

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