

Tuesday June 16, 2015

Chair David Shiner
Planning and Growth Management Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair Shiner and Committee Members

Re: Request for report on options to encourage green infrastructure on residential properties with less than 5 units.

Please accept this request for the Planning and Growth Management Committee to add this item to the meeting agenda of June 18th, 2015.

A motion adopted by Council on May 5, 6 and 7, 2015, established a Storm Water Management working group to review processes, regulations and by-laws governing modifications and/or maintenance of private property as it relates to changes to grade, drainage, increased non-permeable surfaces, storm water management infrastructure and contributory impacts. Council requested that the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards and the General Manager, Toronto Water report to the November 12, 2015 Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on the results of the Storm Water Management Working Group.

New commercial, industrial, institutional and mid-high rise residential development is required to meet green infrastructure performance measures such as storm water management and tree planting in the Toronto Green Standard. New residential units of less than 5 units are exempt. There has been renewed interest in encouraging better storm water management on residential properties with recent extreme weather events.

I would request the Committee to adopt the following recommendation:

Recommendation:

1. The Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, in consultation with Toronto Water, Transportation Services, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Office of the Chief Corporate Officer (Environment and Energy) report to the September 2016 meeting of Planning & Growth Management Committee on options to encourage "green infrastructure" for residential properties with less than 5 units. Options may include regulatory mechanisms and enforcement strategies, green development standards, policies and implementation tools (such as communication of information and demonstration projects), right-of-way management policies, and financial incentives or repayment models. The report should incorporate the results of the Storm Water Management working group.



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