



MARY FRAGEDAKIS
City Councillor, Ward 29



To: Chair and Members, Executive Committee

From: Councillor Mary Fragedakis

Date: May 11, 2018

RE: EX34.3 Implementing Tenants First - Creating a Seniors Housing Unit at Toronto Community Housing Corporation and Transitioning Towards a Seniors Housing and Services Entity at the City

SUMMARY:

The recommendations in EX34.3 Implementing Tenants First - Creating a Seniors Housing Unit at Toronto Community Housing Corporation and Transitioning Towards a Seniors Housing and Services Entity at the City are an important step towards much needed improvements to our support of the Seniors in our community especially as it relates to housing.

Implementing some of these recommendations might best be done through pilot projects and my understanding is that City staff are currently planning such an approach. Pilot projects both begin to address community needs immediately but also provide a critical learning opportunity for planning future endeavours.

TCHC's Greenwood Towers is a designated Seniors building (59yrs & older) in Operating Unit A and it should be considered for a pilot project for a number of reasons. Chief among them is that there have been two tragic fatalities as a result of two separate fire occurrences there within the last 6 months.

As well, it has among the highest concentration of seniors 80+ in the TCHC portfolio. In 2017, a high needs building approach was implemented for pest management with very limited success - the bed bugs persist. LOFT, Woodgreen and Home and Community Care provide some assistance to residents there but these are limited in scope. Vulnerable tenant density is the primary building dynamic and so an integrated service model pilot project here is both very needed and would prove helpful to strengthening the overall objectives of the initiative detailed in this report.

RECOMMENDATION:

That recommendation 1a be amended to read:

"1 a. Collaborate with the City of Toronto to design a new Integrated Service Model for seniors housing to promote ageing in place and better quality of life for seniors, in partnership with the Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network (TC LHIN) and the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) and include consideration of a pilot project at TCHC's Greenwood Towers, 145 Strathmore Boulevard and other strategic locations."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Fragedakis
City Councillor
Ward 29, Toronto-Danforth