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To: [councilmeeting](#)
Cc: [Clerk](#)
Subject: Item CC21.1
Date: May 28, 2020 11:32:33 AM

From Urban Alliance on Race Relations

Dear Councillors,

We are writing to you regarding public consultation on rebuild plans and CC21.1's report - City of Toronto Service Restart and Recovery Update.

Pages 11-15 of the report outline the work of the Toronto Office of Recovery and Rebuild (TORR) and include a description of how TORR plans to inform its recommendations to the City Manager and City Council.

Unfortunately, there is no real commitment in there to having a broad-based public consultation to inform the City's recovery and rebuild plans and proactive outreach to equity-seeking communities most impacted by this pandemic is missing. As an organization that advocates for racial justice and for the many disadvantaged racialized communities in Toronto, we are very concerned about this glaring omission.

We are asking City Council to direct City Staff to ensure broad and inclusive public consultation takes place. We want to see this consultation include a serious, focused and resourced consultation plan that reaches out to and meaningfully engages racialized communities, especially those outside the downtown core. There is definitely a way to get this done without having to slow down the process. As an organization that has convened diverse racialized communities for various policy input for over 45 years, Urban Alliance on Race Relations will be willing to help out without any additional costs to the City Council.

Without the inclusion of such a plan within the consultation process, the recommendations that come forward will be disconnected from the realities facing too many Torontonians and will not be as effective or as good a use of time or resources as they could have been.

Sincerely,

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