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June 3, 2021

Mr. John Elvidge  
City Clerk  
City Clerk's Office  
100 Queen's Street West  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, West Tower  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Mr. Elvidge,

**Re: Administrative Inquiry on Council's Requests for a List of Surplus Federal and Provincial Lands in Toronto**

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On May 27, 2021 Councillor Fletcher submitted an Administrative Inquiry seeking information about Council's requests for a list of surplus federal and provincial lands in Toronto and an update on discussions with the respective governments about making these surplus properties available to help increase the supply of affordable housing in Toronto.

This letter provides a response to the items requested by Councillor Fletcher.

**1. Lists of surplus federal and provincial properties in Toronto.**

Toronto has continuously requested the federal and provincial governments to identify surplus lands within Toronto and dedicate such surplus lands and any future surplus lands to be utilized to create new mixed-income communities, including new affordable and market rental units. More recently this includes requests by City Council through the HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan, and the Phase One and Two of the Housing Now Initiative.

Comprehensive lists of surplus federal and provincial government properties have not been released or provided. A number of provincial sites are identified below. A list of federal surplus lands is not available however the Federal Government and its agencies periodically identify available lands including through the [federal lands initiative](#).

**Table 1 – Provincial Surplus Lands (previously requested by City Council)**

	<b>Address</b>	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Land Area (acres)</b>
1.	321 Front Street (West Don Lands Block Number – 2W – south west corner of Front St. E. and Trinity Street)	13	2.94
2.	West Don Lands Block Number – 6W – south west corner of Eastern Avenue and Cherry Street	13	0.62
3.	153 – 185 Eastern Avenue (West Don Lands Block Number – 17/26 – P2 – south east corner of Eastern Avenue and Rolling Mills Road)	13	2.3
4.	311 Jarvis Street & 354 George Street	13	1.59
5.	51 Panorama Court	1	48.21

**2. Update on discussions with the respective governments about making these surplus properties available to help increase the supply of affordable housing in Toronto.**

City staff are encouraged that intergovernmental collaboration to provide affordable and supportive housing opportunities in Toronto is already underway. This includes the partnership with the federal government in delivery of the Rapid Housing and Modular Housing Initiatives. Additionally, in April 2021, the Province of Ontario committed to providing \$15.4 million in operating funding for 1,098 new supportive homes underway in 2021.

City staff continue to discuss housing needs, including the need for surplus lands, as part of its collaboration with federal and provincial officials. Municipalities across the country also have identified the need for lands to build new affordable housing. This includes in partnership with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, which has recently advocated for federal lands to be included as part of future phases of the Rapid Housing Initiative, and for federal recovery strategies to make more low/no-cost land available for housing.

Sincerely,



Chris Murray  
City Manager