



The Annex Residents' Association

Anna Bailão
Chair, Planning and Housing Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St West
Toronto, ON

Delivered via email Planning and Housing Committee phc@toronto.ca

June 22, 2021

Dear Councillor Bailão and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

RE: Multi-Tenant Housing Review, Planning & Housing Committee - June 28, 2021

I write on behalf of the Annex Residents' Association (the ARA) regarding the City's proposal relating to Multi-Tenanted Houses (MTHs). The Annex is just north of the downtown campus of the University of Toronto. Our neighbourhood, as well as others on the perimeter of the campus, currently have MTHs, many of which are illegal or unlicensed.

We believe the proposed zoning by-law changes relating to MTHs are being hastily considered and are being ushered in without an adequate review process. We have serious concerns with the lack of enforcement with the current MTHs in the City and believe these houses present real and potential safety issues for the tenants, many of whom may not be able to advocate for better housing themselves.

It is for these primary reasons that we believe it is crucial for the Committee and Council Members to ask critical questions, especially since tenant safety may be at risk. We ask the City to:

- Clearly identify the number of existing MTHs across the City – including unlicensed and illegal ones.
- Bring all unlicensed and illegal MTHs into compliance or shut them down.
- Ensure there is an adequate budget and resources to regulate and enforce MTHs.
- Increase accountability and transparency by reporting and verifying the status of and investigations into any and all MTHs, including potential unlicensed and illegal ones.

We support a harmonized regulatory framework and applaud the City for attempting to increase affordable housing options but strongly urge you to ask critical questions and get satisfactory answers before allowing more MTHs.

Yours sincerely,

Rita Bilerman
Chair, Annex Residents' Association

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