

City Housing Advocate and Chair's Update

RE: EX8.19



**COUNCILLOR ANA BAILÃO
CITY'S HOUSING ADVOCATE AND CHAIR
AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 2, 2015**

1. Close the Housing Gap Campaign



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1. Campaign has over the last 18 months put the issue of funding for social and affordable housing on the radar in Toronto and across the country
2. City has committed to its share of funding for Toronto Community Housing 10 year capital repair program
3. Continuing to press the federal and provincial governments to “step up” with support and funding commitments

1. Close the Housing Gap Campaign



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4. Federal election on Monday October 19th provides a strategic opportunity to continue the city's housing advocacy through the Close the Housing Gap Campaign
 5. During September and October the campaign will be in full swing with bus shelter posters across the city and public engagement
 6. The campaign will also include a housing questionnaire to the candidates of the four major political parties seeking election in Toronto's 25 federal ridings
- Questions to the candidates calling for:
 - support for funding for capital repairs to TCH
 - reinvesting of funds from expiring operating agreements
 - support for fully-funded, long-term national housing strategy

2. Open Door Initiative

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- Launched with Mayor Tory in April
- Aimed to “catch-up and meet the city’s targets of 1,000 rental and 200 ownership homes annually”
- Executive Committee directed city staff to review existing policies and programs and report back in November on a series of recommendations to improve the city’s “track record” on delivering new homes



2. Open Door Initiative

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- Staff Working Group now meeting and making progress on the “Open Door” program
- Targeted non-profit and private sector rental and ownership consultations planned for September and October
- As directed staff are working with other divisions and Build Toronto, Toronto Community Housing and the Toronto Parking Authority on potential pilot projects on surplus land

3. Open Door Initiative

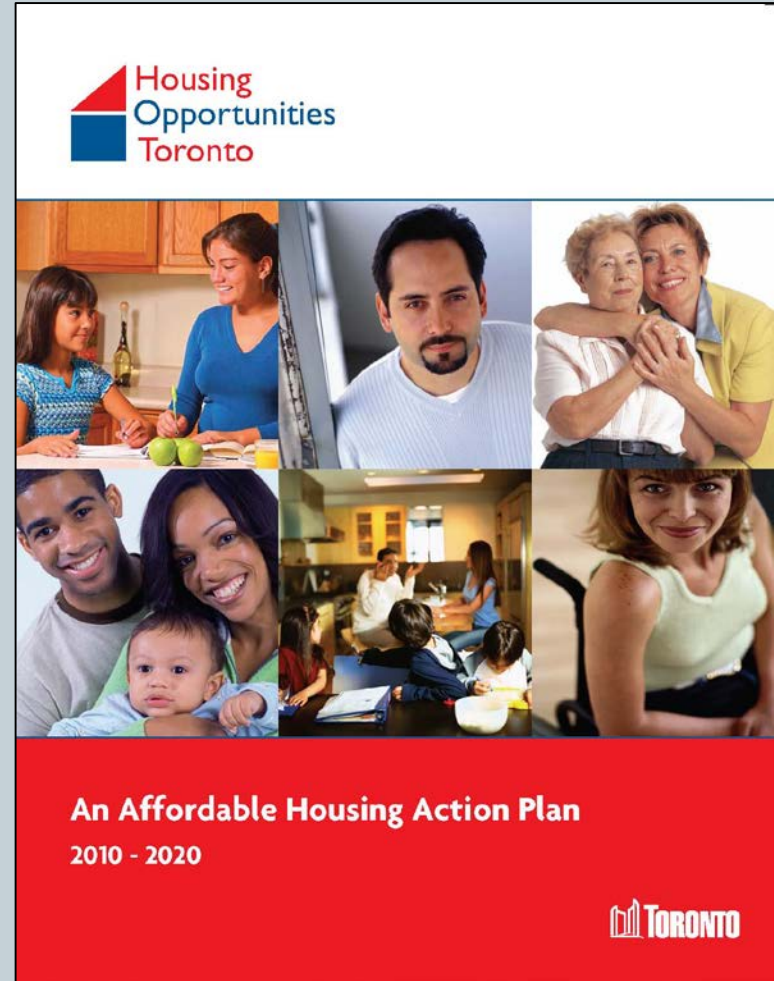
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- **Some sites include:**
 - 200 Madison Avenue which is now being recommended for approval – Ward 22
 - Tippit Road Regeneration site with Build Toronto – Ward 10
 - Block 36 with Toronto Community Housing – Ward 20
 - 150 Harrison with Toronto Parking Authority – Ward 19
 - 640 Lansdowne with Toronto Transit Commission – Ward 18
- **The City is pursuing several other sites with the province of Ontario**
- **Staff are on schedule to report “Open Door” progress to the Affordable Housing Committee, Executive Committee and City Council in November and December 2015**

3. Housing Opportunities Toronto Review

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- Housing Opportunities Toronto (HOT) is the city's 10 year plan on affordable housing
- HOT guides the city's investments and priorities in housing
- Provincial legislation requires a 5-year review
- Focused public consultations will be launched in October
- Staff will report to Committee on the results and recommended additions/amendments to HOT in Spring 2016



4. Calendar Highlights

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1. **United Nations World Habitat Day –Monday October 5**
2. **Launch Housing Opportunities Toronto review – October**
3. **Release results of Federal Candidate Questionnaire – early October**
4. **Federal Election – Monday October 19**
5. **National Housing Day – Sunday November 22**
6. **Open Door Program Report – November/December**
7. **TCH Housing Task Force Report – December**