

TWCA Toronto Women's City Alliance Making Equality Matter.

3rd June 2015

Dear Councillor,

I am writing on behalf of Toronto Women's City Alliance. We are an organization comprised of diverse women working to end the silence of women and girls' voices in the municipal legislative arena.

In this instance, I am writing with regard to the recommendations in Councillor Mike Layton's Member's motion which is scheduled to appear before the Planning and Growth Management Committee on June 18th.

These recommendations state the following:

1. City Council direct the City Manager, the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning and the Director of the Affordable Housing Office to report to Planning and Growth Management Committee on a strategy to implement inclusionary zoning in the City of Toronto.
2. City Council request the Province to include affordable housing as part of the review of the Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan.

Given Item PG 4.3 Proposed Amendments Introduced Through Bill 73, *Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, 2015*, these additional directives from City Council are of utmost importance for two reasons. First, Toronto's City Council must act to create a definitive, relevant and effective strategy for inclusionary zoning in order to concretely address the crisis-proportion shortage of affordable housing in our city.

Second, the Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan are not separate urban issues. The availability of affordable housing in well-planned spaces that acknowledge the diversity and needs of all residents of Toronto is an integral part of planning all of our spaces. These have been treated as separate issues for far too long.

We urge you to support this item for the benefit of all Torontonians (particularly those living on low incomes) and contribute to the development of a more equitable city.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
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