

December 23, 2014

Comprehensive review of rooming houses is underway

Municipal Licensing and Standards, in partnership with City Planning, and with the support of numerous other City divisions, is leading a Rooming House Review as directed by the Executive Committee in the summer of 2014.

The goals of the review are to:

- Assess the current legislative and policy environment
- Describe the current nature and concerns related to the rooming house stock
- Understand and articulate the experiences and interests of key stakeholders, such as community and resident group representatives, tenants, operators, neighbours, service agencies, post-secondary institutions, etc.)
- Outline the challenges and opportunities facing rooming houses in Toronto
- Examine experiences in other jurisdictions and identify best practices
- Identify options for addressing the role of rooming houses, including the safety of neighbourhoods and tenants

An inter-divisional working group on rooming houses has been established to support and inform the review. The group includes Municipal Licensing and Standards, City Planning, Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Building, Shelter, Support, and Housing, Affordable Housing Office, Toronto Public Health, Office of Emergency Management and Social Development, Finance and Administration.

Public consultations

A key component of the rooming house review is extensive consultations with diverse stakeholders such as tenants, operators, neighbours and service agencies beginning in the first quarter of 2015. These groups will be engaged through a variety of consultation methods, including:

- Open houses
- Neighbourhood-based consultations
- Stakeholder roundtables
- Online surveys

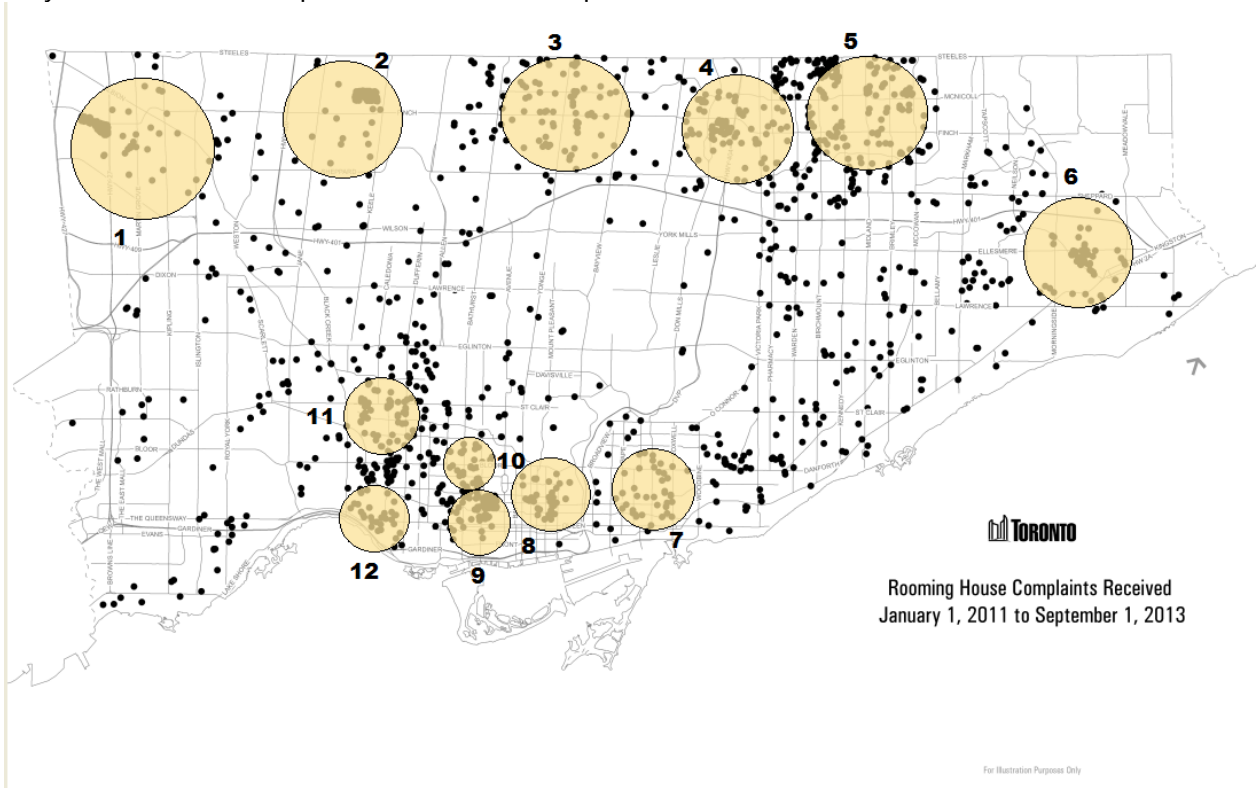
The findings of the consultations will inform a **discussion paper** on rooming houses that will be presented to Executive Committee in June 2015.



Role for Councillors

Councillors will be requested to engage in sharing their experience with rooming houses and to assist in identifying neighbourhoods and participants that should be consulted during the review.

The map and list below identifies the potential areas for neighbourhood-based consultations based upon a review of rooming house (legal and illegal) reports. Additional neighbourhoods may be added based upon feedback, and request.



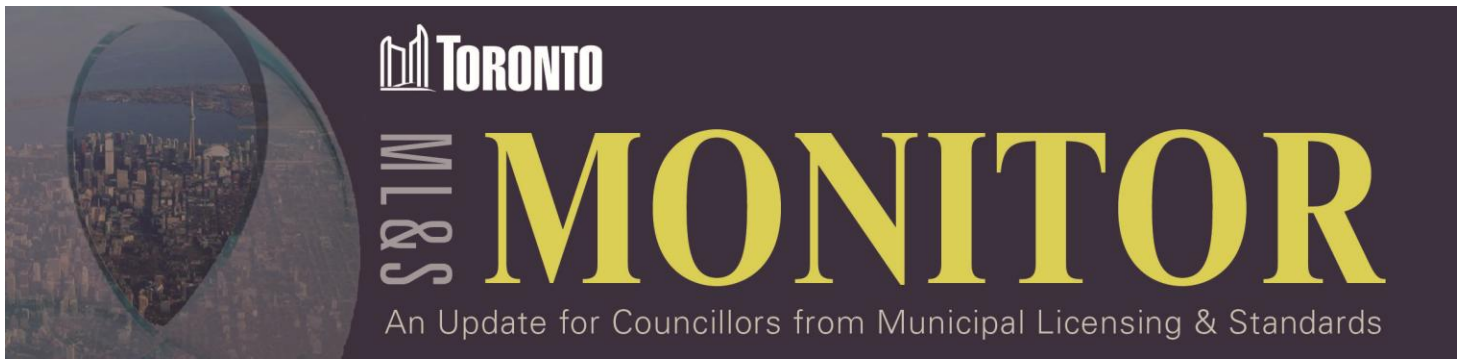
Tentative list for neighbourhood-based consultations:

Etobicoke/York Community Council

1. Smithfield (Humber College North Campus)
2. York University Heights

North York Community Council

3. Newtonbrook/Willowdale
4. The Peanut/Hillcrest Village (Seneca College Newnham Campus)



Scarborough Community Council

5. Milliken (Seneca College Scarborough Campus)
6. Highland Creek (University of Toronto Scarborough)

Toronto/East York Community Council

7. South Riverdale
8. Regent Park/Cabbagetown
9. Harbord Village (University of Toronto)
10. The Annex (University of Toronto)
11. Corso-Italia- Davenport
12. Parkdale

In the new year, if Councillors want to learn more about the review or suggest areas or neighbourhoods that are uniquely impacted by rooming houses, contact:

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