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Rental Housing Update

Presentation to Affordable Housing and Tenant Issues Committees Sean Gadon, Director Affordable Housing Office April 3, 2017





- Current Housing Situation
- Toronto's Turbulent Housing Market
- Rental Market Update
- Community Voices



Where We Live!

 According to the National Housing Survey (2011), 55% of Toronto households live in ownership homes (571,795 HHs). Majority of renting households live in private market rent housing.



Toronto Residents in the Housing Market

Where We Live! Structure Type



Single, semi/double, and row houses

- Duplex apartments and apartments in a building with fewer than five storeys
- Apartments in a building with five or more storeys



Current Situation

- Housing and construction are core industries:
 - GTA building/development industry employed 196,603 people, paid \$11.4 billion in wages, contributed more than \$30 billion to the economy in 2015
- While some benefiting from rising prices (investors, sellers), many are struggling:
 - Low-income families in need of social housing
 - People trying to find/afford even modest housing
 - Renters worried about economic or forced evictions
 - Many, including young people, squeezed out of ownership market.



A Turbulent Housing Market

- Sale prices/rents outpacing income growth, residents' capacity to afford renting/buying in Toronto and GTA
- Factors contributing to this worrisome trend include:



Renters

- Majority live in private market rent housing
- Many struggle with affordability.



Rental Stock Universe - 2011

- Rental Condos (60,230 Households)
- Private Rental (337,301 HHs)
- Subsidized Homes (78,554 HHs)

Renters and Affordability-2011



- Renting a subsidized unit (78,554 HHs)
- Paying 30% or more of income on rent (207,907 HHs)
- Paying 30% or less of income on rent (190,434 HHs)



Applications to Landlord and Tenant Board

 In 2016, 72% of landlord applications to Landlord and Tenant Board due to non-payment of rent.



Applications by landlords to the LTB in 2016, by type



Tight Rental Market

- Adequate, appropriate rental homes hard to find and increasingly expensive:
 - Primary rental market vacancy rate was 1.3% (3,347 units) as of October, 2016 - healthy rate considered to be 3%
 - Turnover rate in Toronto's private rental market 2015-2016: 16.1% (41,446 units)
 - 98,928 households on the Housing Connection's waiting list (Dec. 2016)
 - 2,771 households were housed from the waiting list in 2016
 - 66,128 units unoccupied by usual residents as of May, 2016 Statistics Canada
 - City examining how to collect data on number of homes intentionally left vacant.



Rental Housing Supply

- Growth in purpose-built rentals slow but gaining momentum in Toronto:
- 5,128 government-assisted rental homes completed 2006 -2015
- 2,050 private rental homes completed
 2006 -2015
- As of end of 2016,
 - Urbanation estimated 28,000 purpose-built rental homes proposed in the GTA
 - Rental homes proposed in Toronto: 22,194 homes.



Purpose-Built Apartments Under Construction

Source: Urbanation, CIBC



Condos in the Rental Market

- Majority of new built homes are condos
- Condos providing an increasing share of rental opportunities for Torontonians.



Share of Rental Condos in Condo Universe

Source: CMHC - Rental Market Report -Greater Toronto Area (Fall 2016)

Condos in the Rental Market

- According to CMHC Rental Market Report in 2016:
 - There were 92,658 rental condos (35% of all condos)
 - 65,800 of these rental condos were built after 1991 (25% of all condos)
 - Rental condo vacancy rate of 1% (927) - tighter than private rental market.





Rental condo units (92,658)

Owner-occupied condo units (174,402)



Factors Impacting Rents

- Overall rents in private/condo rental market vary depending on factors such as:
 - Location
 - Age, size and state of repair
 - Amenities
 - Turn-over
 - Government regulations

Average Rents (1-bedroom) - Toronto





Community Voices

- Toronto/GTA private and non-profit organizations, experts, public calling for:
 - Federal/provincial/local governments to take action on housing
 - More rental opportunities across Toronto and GTA through increased construction
 - More financial support for families having difficulties paying rent, staying housed
 - Scaled up effort to find/implement innovative solutions to rental and ownership housing challenges
 - Updated residential tenancy practices and regulations.



Summary

- Housing plays a vital role in economic and social well-being of Toronto/GTA
- Increasingly prominent issue on public/government agendas
- More data needed to generate more accurate housing profile and more effective decisions
- Crucial that everyone contributes ideas to policy/program development and resources to solutions
- Only strong partnership between governments, renters, public and private sectors will reverse the current affordability crisis.



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