

**From:** [Jean Stevenson](#)  
**To:** [councilmeeting](#)  
**Cc:** [Jean Stevenson](#)  
**Subject:** Madison Community Services Joins with the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness (TAEH) in Support of Motion MM12.21  
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**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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To Mayor John Tory and Toronto City Councillors,

Madison Community Services joins with the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness (TAEH) in strong support of Councillors Cressy and Wong-Tam's Motion MM12.21 – Ending Homelessness – Building Supportive Housing Now.

Along with other supportive housing providers, Madison has felt frustrated and concerned that there did not seem to be any plan for action to achieve the commitment which City Council made in March 2018 to create 18,000 supportive housing units in Toronto over the next 10 years – starting in 2020 – which is just around the corner.

This motion represents the beginning of a plan for focussed action on this commitment made by City Council.

It is an encouraging and a critical piece of the plan that Motion MM12.21 calls for City leadership by committing its share of 1/3 of the costs needed as well as a commitment that the City call on the federal and provincial governments to do the same.

It is long past the time for the City to declare that homelessness is a major crisis in Toronto. It is my understanding that with over 8,000 Torontonians currently homeless, Toronto is the homelessness capital of Canada. Certainly nothing to be proud of! The creation of more supportive housing is one of the key strategies within a plan to address the Toronto homelessness crisis.

With over 17,000 people in Toronto living with mental health challenges on the wait list for supportive housing, it should be clear to all City Councillors and relevant City staff that a large supply of new supportive housing is essential. Ways and means to create the new supply begins with approval of Motion MM12.21.

Making the creation of new supportive housing units on City public land a priority (e.g. 1/3 of the Housing Now initiative new construction units to be allocated to supportive housing) offers a significant way that the City can start to fulfill its commitment to create a minimum of 1800 supportive housing units a year. And the bridging strategy in this Motion is also essential for immediate action while a new stock of supportive housing units are being built.

Sincerely,

*Jean*

## **Jean Stevenson**

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