



REPORT FOR ACTION

Housing Plan 2020-2030 Consultations- Update

Date: March 4, 2019
To: Planning and Housing Committee
From: Director, Affordable Housing Office
Wards: All

SUMMARY

This report is in response to City Council's direction on February 26, 2019 that the Director of the Affordable Housing Office report to the Planning and Housing Committee on March 20th with an update on the public consultations in the development of a new Toronto Housing Plan 2020-2030.

The development of the City's new Housing Plan 2020-2030 is a multi-divisional effort under the executive leadership of the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services.

A fundamental component of developing and delivering the new Housing Plan 2020-2030 is the effective engagement of a full range of key stakeholders and the public. Later this month the details of a comprehensive public consultation plan will be announced.

The consultation plan will include general public consultation events, deeper stakeholder engagement, and the activation of an external advisory committee convened by the Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee.

Additionally other activities will include mechanisms to reach marginalized and equity seeking groups that experience housing issues. In June 2019 the City with other groups will host a Housing Forum to report on the results of the consultations and explore best practices from other jurisdictions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Affordable Housing Office recommends that the Planning and Housing Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts arising from this report. The Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report.

EQUITY IMPACT

Lack of access to safe, secure, affordable housing is a barrier to improved quality of life outcomes for lower-income Toronto residents and experienced differently by different demographic groups. The Affordable Housing Office has met with the People, Equity and Human Rights division for advice on the consultation approach and will continue to do so during the implementation process.

DECISION HISTORY

On February 26, 2019 City Council directed that the Director of the Affordable Housing Office report back to the Planning and Housing Committee on March 20th about the Housing Plan 2020-2030 consultations. The City Council decision can be found here: [PH2.5 Toronto Housing Market Analysis Input into Action](#)

The Housing Opportunities Toronto Action Plan 2020-2030 Directions report also provided a high-level approach to the consultations. It can be accessed at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.EX36.32>

COMMENTS

As the City's current Housing Opportunities Toronto 2010-2020 will shortly be completed, work has begun on the development of a new Housing Plan 2020-2030.

This work is a multi-divisional effort under the executive leadership of the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services. The Affordable Housing Office is providing secretarial services in collaboration with Shelter, Support and Housing Administration, in hosting public consultations and development of the new Housing Plan.

The work to develop the new Housing Plan has already begun with the completion in January 2019 of a housing market analysis to provide the evidence for forward planning and to contribute to the public consultation materials. The public is now able to find updates and contribute their ideas through the web page: www.toronto.ca/housingplan. The public can also email the City at: housingplan@toronto.ca.

In March the City will release the details of a comprehensive public consultation plan, which will include information on general public consultation events, deeper stakeholder engagement opportunities, and the activation of an external advisory committee being convened by the Chair of the Planning and Housing Committee. The consultations will be led by an external consulting firm that specializes in public consultation.

The role of the external advisory committee will be to provide advice on the consultation process, guidance on public and stakeholder outreach, and contributing their expert and experiential input to the process. It is anticipated the advisory committee will consist of some twenty individuals drawn from a range of different perspectives, including five members with lived experience.

As part of the public consultations, the City will support organizations wishing to conduct their own consultations within their communities through making available “Do It Yourself” workshop materials. City staff will also be available to support City Councillors wishing to host their own consultations within their wards. The City will also invite and support organizations representing equity seeking groups to submit proposals to host their own consultations.

A broad range of stakeholder consultations will also explore specific topics across the full housing continuum from homelessness to rental housing to long-term care. Specific Indigenous outreach and engagement will be undertaken in consultation with Indigenous partners in the housing and homelessness sector.

In June the City with other groups will host a Housing Forum to report on the results of the consultations to date and to explore best practices from other jurisdictions. The Housing Forum will include an evening public session followed by a full day working session with stakeholders. The focus of the forum will be to integrate the results of the consultations while exploring new solutions to address the City’s housing challenges over the next decade.

As requested by the Planning and Housing Committee and City Council, the Affordable Housing Office working with Shelter, Support & Housing Administration has now engaged with staff from the People, Equity and Human Rights Office to include their input and advice on the consultation plan. The Affordable Housing Office will continue to engage and integrate the People, Equity and Human Rights Office into the consultation work and the overall development of the Housing Plan 2020-2030.

CONTACT

Erik Hunter
Manager, Policy & Partnerships
Affordable Housing Office
Tel: 416-397-4251
Email: erik.hunter@toronto.ca

Sherri Hanley
Management Consultant
Affordable Housing Office
Tel: 416-392-4039
Email: sherri.hanley@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Sean Gadon, Director
Affordable Housing Office