



April 3, 2019

10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Attention: Nancy Martins  
email: [phc@toronto.ca](mailto:phc@toronto.ca)

**RE: PH4.5 Committee of Adjustment Panel Size and Structure,**

Dear Chair Ana Bailão and Members, Planning and Housing Committee,

This communication is in support of staff report recommendations:

- to increase the Committee of Adjustment (CoA) membership from 30 to 35 members, with two of the additional members assigned to the Toronto and East York (TEY) district and three to the Etobicoke York (EY) district;
- that panel members be assigned to a district rather than a particular panel within a district.

We have no comment on the other administrative changes proposed.

As noted in the report these changes will improve customer service. However, we note that there remain numerous other CofA process related issues from Application Intake (TO Building) to Zoning Examination Review (TO Building), and Hearings Policy, Procedures and Services (City Planning) which relate to customer service, but are needed to improve the quality of decision-making. In that regard we look forward to report-backs to the resolutions adopted by City Council in June, 2018 (attached):

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2018.EX35.7>

Respectfully submitted,

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Cc: Gregg Lintern, Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division  
Michael Mizzi, Director, Committee of Adjustment and Zoning  
Will Johnston, Chief Building Official

**The Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA)** is a non-profit, volunteer organization comprised of over 30 member organizations. Its members, all residents' associations, include at least 170,000 Toronto residents within their boundaries. The residents' associations that make up FoNTRA believe that Ontario and Toronto can and should achieve better development. Its central issue is not *whether* Toronto will grow, but *how*. FoNTRA believes that sustainable urban regions are characterized by environmental balance, fiscal viability, infrastructure investment and social renewal.

## **Motions**

### *1 - Motion to Amend Motion moved by Councillor Jaye Robinson (Carried)*

That the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning report to the Executive Committee in January 2019, on recommended improvements to the Committee of Adjustment and related processes to address planning issues related to residential applications.

### *2 - Motion to Amend Motion moved by Councillor Jaye Robinson (Carried)*

That the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning be requested to review the Committee of Adjustment and related processes in order to better serve the public and enhance dialogue between applicants and the public and report back to the Executive Committee in January of 2019, and the review to include an examination of opportunities to further improve communication and strategies for enhancing informal engagement of residents.

### *3 - Motion to Refer Item moved by Councillor David Shiner (Carried)*

That the Executive Committee:

1. Refer the matter back to the City Manager, the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, and the Acting Director, Court Services, to request the Chair, Toronto Local Appeal Body to examine possible revisions to the Committee of Adjustment's appeal process and for this review to consider improved opportunities to resolve disputes prior to Committee of Adjustment's hearings that are fair and reasonable to neighbours directly affected by the variances and report to the Executive Committee by the first quarter of 2019, including an analysis of the comments provided by the Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA), and until this review is conducted, not continue with the Mediation Pilot Program.