

May 4, 2021

Re: Planning and Housing Committee Recommendation on an Independent Public Review of Committee of Adjustment (Toronto Agenda Item 2021.PH22.7 on April 22)

Dear Marilyn,

On behalf of the **Cliffcrest Scarborough Village SW Residents Association** (**CSVSWRA**) we would like to thank the Planning and Housing Committee for putting forward to City Council the recommendation to conduct an independent public review, and report back by fourth quarter of 2021 or sooner, of the Committee of Adjustment (CoA) including the establishment of an advisory committee, and public engagement.

CSVSWRA's specific concerns and recommendations related to Item 2021.PH22.7 were presented in our letter at the Planning and Housing Committee meeting on April 22, 2021.

The CSVSWRA wants all four items in the motion to proceed, with an emphasis on a):

a. Investigate and address residents' concerns with the current processes;

- b. Consider alternatives to the Committee of Adjustment process for minor variances and severances;
- c. Review and revise the Committee of Adjustment processes based on tribunal best practices, and quality assurance review practices;
- d. Education and training of Members on both procedures and substance of the Committee mandate.

The CSVSWRA feels that an advisory committee drawn from across Toronto will ensure that the public's concerns and corrective proposals are heard, and public engagement brings transparency to the review and outcomes and opportunity for the public to bring forward their complaints.

Finally, the CSVSWRA would also like to thank Councillors Ainsley and Crawford for your support for this recommendation, and our members are counting on your vote when it is put forward to City Council on May 5, 2021. There is always a balance needed between 'not in my backyard' and 'good planning'. We need rigorous guidelines, enforcement of the CoA rules, and disciplined deliberations to deliver this balance. The CoA problems are affecting all of Toronto, including Scarborough and we want to make sure that Scarborough has a voice.

Per our mission statement, "Together we preserve the unique nature of our neighbourhoods"

Sincerely,



Alan J. Burt

Co-chair of the Planning and Development Committee and Director, Cliffcrest Scarborough Village SW Residents Association

CC: Cliffcrest Scarborough Village SW Residents Association (<u>info@csvsw.ca</u>) Mayor John Tory <u>mayor_tory@toronto.ca</u> Councillor Gary Crawford (Ward 20) <u>councillor_crawford@toronto.ca</u> Councillor Paul Ainslie (Ward 24) <u>councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca</u>



Cliffcrest Scarborough Village SW Residents Association

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To learn more and register as a member visit our website www.cliffcrestscarboroughvillagesw.ca

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