



HENRY FARM COMMUNITY INTEREST ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

To: Toronto City Council

Re; Response to New Regulatory Framework for Multi-Tenant (Rooming) Housing regulation

As Toronto City council will be considering the new Multi-Tenant (Rooming) Housing regulation at the council meeting on July 14, 2021, The Henry Farm Community Interest Association (HFCIA) wishes to submit the following response to the proposed Rooming House Regulations.

The new regulation of rooming houses, in our opinion, is an attempt for the city to pass the burden of creating affordable housing to family neighborhoods. The increasingly common practice of gentrification in the City of Toronto has left our least fortunate without affordable accommodation.

The local government's proven unwillingness and inability to create affordable housing is shamelessly being passed to private investors who will force those less fortunate into over-crowded homes and unregulated rental agreements based on private investors choice of rooming house locations> This will fundamentally change the communities that residents have worked so hard to create.

HFCIA experienced difficulties with a handful of rooming houses in our neighbourhood in the recent past. Our repeated efforts to obtain enforcement of the by-laws failed to get action from city officials.

During this year, HFCIA, after an enormous effort, was able to get city officials to act against blatant violations of Airbnb and Covid-19 regulations against one homeowner.

HFCIA has no confidence in the proposed new regulations with promises of rooming house regulation given the City's failure to act to regulate unlicensed rooming houses and the new Airbnb regulations in these same neighbourhoods in the past.

Rather than forcing those less fortunate into exploitative rental agreements in cramped, unsuitable living conditions, the onus should be on the city of Toronto to incentivize developers to create suitable and sustainable housing options while maintaining the dignity and integrity of Toronto's most treasured neighborhoods.

HFCIA Strongly objects to the new rooming house regulations.

Thank You

Yours Truly

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President

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