



Planning and Housing Committee  
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall  
100 Queen Street West  
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2  
Sent via email: [phc@toronto.ca](mailto:phc@toronto.ca)

**RE: PH 22.7 UPDATE ON COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARINGS**

April 21, 2021

Dear Chair Ana Bailao and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

The ABC Residents Association is a volunteer organization committed to enhancing the quality of life in our neighbourhood through active participation in municipal issues. We serve the residents living in Toronto's Yorkville / North Midtown community between Yonge Street west to Avenue Road and Bloor Street north to the CPR tracks. We are a member in the Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA) and together, we participate in initiatives related to improvements in the CofA and TLAB processes.

We are writing with regard to the City Planning report dated April 6, 2020 that provided an update on Committee of Adjustment virtual public hearings. The report appears to focus on the operational aspects of the Committee of Adjustment and does not take sufficient account of the residents who participate in Committee hearings.

Residents wishing to participate in Committee of Adjustment hearings are often confused on how to participate and are not clear on the deadlines for written submissions. In addition, participants in hearings are often faced with rules they do not understand, or which have changed and they face an arbitrarily imposed speaking time limit.

We request that the Planning and Housing Committee commission an externally led study to review the Rules and Procedures across all Committee of Adjustment districts to define new operating models and processes. ABCRA supports the position outlined by SERRA (South Eglinton Ratepayers' & Residents' Association) and FoNTRA (Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations), which have suggested a full review of the Committee of Adjustment based on best practices of procedures currently in place in other municipalities across Ontario and other comparable jurisdictions to Toronto. This study must also include active participation by stakeholders that include residents' associations, members of the public and their representatives as well as development industry representatives in addition to City departments such as Transportation Services, Urban Forestry, and Parks & Recreation.

Sincerely,

John Caliendo, ABCRA Co-President  
Ian Carmichael, ABCRA Co-President