

June 25, 2021

Dear Councillors Ana Bailão, Brad Bradford, Paula Fletcher, Frances Nunziata, Gord Perks, Kristyn Wong-Tam, and Committee Secretary Nancy Martins:

This is with respect to the staff report for item PH25.10 on multi-tenant housing that is going before Committee on Monday June 28, 2021. I respectfully request that the reference to sorority and fraternity houses as multi-tenant houses in Section 3 be deleted and included in Section 4 as (f).

If sororities and fraternities are deemed to be multi-tenant houses, then sororities and fraternities are deemed to be landlords. ***This means that a sorority would, by law in Ontario, be unable to refuse to rent to any man because of their gender.*** This would eliminate safeguarding the characteristic of sororities being women-only residences. ***Is this really the intended consequence for sororities?***

I am a member of Theta Delta Chi of Toronto Inc, which has a chapter house at 22 Madison Avenue in the Annex of Toronto. Our home provides safe and reasonably priced accommodation to our student members in a collegial environment. For many of our resident members, our homes are a home away from home where they learn how to live with others, actively participate in managing a home and build leadership skills (Alumni include Lorne Lodge, President of IBM Canada, James Kerr, President of TransCanada Pipelines and a long list of other presidents, vice presidents, judges, lawyers, doctors, and entrepreneurs.)

For many years the City of Toronto viewed chapter houses like ours as single housing keeping units (like not-for-profit co-operative housing) where students who all belong to an organization live together and share common living and kitchen facilities.

The proposed framework on multi-tenant housing – as currently drafted – should not include our home, as we do not have tenants. Our resident members are all part owners in the not-for-profit non-share corporation that owns our home, so our house is not subject to the *Landlord Tenant Act* nor the *Residential Tenancies Act* as our residents are not tenants.

Including fraternities and sororities in Section 3 is also discriminatory. Section 4 explicitly exempts all other forms of student housing, except ours. We cannot help but think that we are being unfairly targeted.

Please vote to delete the reference to sorority and fraternity houses as multi-tenant houses in Section 3 and include it in Section 4 as (f).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Rankine

President

Wentworth Shopping Centres Limited

Cc: Councillor Mike Layton, Mayor John Tory, Guiliana Carbone, (Community & Social Services), Tracey Cook, (Infrastructure & Development Services), Carleton Grant, (Municipal Licensing & Standards), Gregg Lintern, Planning and Housing Committee