

From: [Melissa Wong](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Cc: [Jin Huh](#); [Israt Ahmed](#)
Subject: Social Planning Toronto's comments for 2022.EC28.15 on April 6, 2022 City Council
Date: April 5, 2022 2:11:47 PM
Attachments: [EC28-15 - SPT letter in support of updating Toronto's Food Charter Apr 2022.pdf](#)

To the City Clerk:

Please add the comments below and attached, sent on behalf of Social Planning Toronto, to the agenda for the April 6, 2022 City Council meeting on item 2022.EC28.15, Updating Toronto's Food Charter for All

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

April 5, 2022

Honorable John Tory and *members of the Council*,

I am writing on behalf of Social Planning Toronto (SPT), a non-profit, charitable community organization that challenges inequity in our city through knowledge generation, debate, civic engagement, advocacy and collaboration to spark social and policy change rooted in social and economic justice and a vision for an equitable, inclusive and accessible Toronto.

SPT, along with many of our members and partners across the city, strongly supports the updating of the food charter to be considered by City Council on April 6, 2022 (motion: EC28.15).

City Council's decision to update the charter is an important component of the Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy 2023-2026 Action Plan. The Council unanimously passed the Toronto Food Charter over twenty years ago and yet we have a growing food security crisis in this city. 1 in 5 households in Toronto are food insecure, and for Black and Indigenous households, that number jumps to one in three. The Toronto Food Charter needs a much-needed update! The pandemic has only exacerbated food insecurity for Toronto residents.

A renewed Food Charter will act as both a foundation and guiding document to ensure that the City's collective actions respect and protect our collective right to food. However, a renewed vision will require the Charter to be driven by those impacted by food insecurity and poverty and must centre the leadership of grassroots community groups that are working to defend the food rights of their communities. To ensure success, the renewed Food Charter must also include a plan for accountability, adequate resourcing, and implementation.

We urge that you support the agenda item *EC28.15 on April 6*. Thank you in advance for your

consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jin Huh', with a small flourish at the end.

Jin Huh,
Executive Director
Social Planning Toronto, 2 Carlton Street, Suite 1001
Toronto, ON, M5B 1J3

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