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June 7, 2022

Executive Committee
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE : EX33.2 - Advancing City Priority Transit Expansion Projects - Waterfront East Light Rail Transit

Mayor Tory and members of the Executive committee,

Volunteers from our **HousingNowTO.com** civic-tech and open-data project are actively engaged in the planning processes for the City of Toronto, Waterfront Toronto and their development partners to delivery thousands of new affordable housing units along the proposed route of the Waterfront East LRT from Union Station to Villiers Island and the Portlands via Queens Quay East.



Proposed redevelopment context along Bayfront East & Villiers Island (via @FutureModelTO)

Along the Queens Quay East route for the Waterfront East LRT, the City of Toronto and its partners are already planning for over one-thousand (~1,000+) new affordable housing units between the East Bayfront R6 (~215 units) and Quayside (~800+ units) developments near the bottom of Parliament Street. This is in addition to the thousands of new market-rate condos and apartments that are also planned for the catchment-area of the Waterfront East LRT over the next decade.

In order for these developments to be successful, all of these waterfront lands need to be “Transit First” Communities where private vehicle use is unnecessary. Therefore, we would ask that the City of Toronto accelerate the Waterfront East LRT project – so that it can be funded, planned and built immediately as a

collaboration of all three levels of government.

The City's affordable housing unit delivery targets at East Bayfront, Quayside, Villiers Island and the Port Lands can only be achieved if the new Waterfront East LRT is delivered as a prerequisite project. New surface-level rapid-transit along the waterfront east of Yonge Street is the key that unlocks the rest of the City's long-term plans for the area.



Waterfront Toronto development districts (2021)

At minimum, the Waterfront East LRT from Union Station to Parliament must be completed before the Quayside community is completed.

As always, our open data and civic-tech volunteers are happy to answer any questions the committee or city staff may have on affordable-housing development best practices – and how to make most effective use of Transit-Oriented Lands to help alleviate Toronto's rental-housing crisis.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark J. Richardson".

Mark J. Richardson
Technical Lead – [HousingNowTO.com](https://www.housingnowto.com)

APPENDIX 1 – Current context for the route of the Waterfront East LRT (Phase 1)

