

City Council

Motion without Notice

MM43.28	ACTION			Ward: 8
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Protecting Terrace Gardens Seniors Residence - by Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Mayor John Tory

- * Notice of this Motion has not been given. A two-thirds vote is required to waive notice.*
- * This Motion is subject to referral to the Planning and Housing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*
- * This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

Recommendations

Councillor Mike Colle, seconded by Mayor John Tory, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager and the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat to explore every possible means whereby the City might be able to help insure this critically vital retirement residence Terrace Gardens continues to provide culturally sensitive and market affordable accommodations to vulnerable and fragile seniors in the heart of Toronto's Jewish Community.
2. City Council request the Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Steve Clark and Federal Minister of Housing, Ahmad Hussain to work with the City to find ways whereby this unique and vital seniors housing asset can continue to provide this essential service.
3. City Council request the City Manager to reach out to Jewish community organizations, such as Bnai Brith and CIJA to join them in advocating for the protection housing at Terrace Gardens.
4. City Council request the City Manager and the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat to work with the new owners of the Terrace Gardens to see what can be done to keep the unique, kosher housing services for the current and future residents.

Summary

Terrace Gardens is a vitally important senior's retirement home in the heart of Toronto's Jewish Community providing culturally-sensitive, supportive rental housing for the growing number of seniors in the community. The residence provides 62 units of seniors housing, employs 34 dedicated staff and offers over 72 customized programs and events each year for Jewish seniors. In addition to on-site programming, the building is close to places of worship, popular culturally-appropriate local businesses, family and friends.

Due to the recent sale of the property, the 50 seniors currently living at Terrace Gardens will have to move by September 1, 2022.

Protecting and maintaining culturally-sensitive senior retirement accommodations is critical to a healthy, vibrant Bathurst and 401 community and to Toronto as whole. We must take every possible step to do what we can to preserve ethno-culturally sensitive seniors housing at this Terrace Gardens site and other similar housing sites at the centre of Toronto's Jewish community.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM43.28