

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

RE: PH34.8 - Open Door Program 2021 Call for Applications Results: Supporting 919 Affordable Rental and Supportive Homes

About More Neighbours Toronto

More Neighbours Toronto is a volunteer-only organization of housing advocates that believe in building more multi-family homes of all kinds for those who dream of building their lives in Toronto. We advocate for reforms to increase our city's ability to build more homes in every neighbourhood. We are a big-tent organization with members across the political spectrum who are committed to counterbalancing the anti-housing agenda that has dominated Toronto's politics, created an affordability crisis, and has cost burdened a new generation of aspiring residents. We are firmly committed to the principle that housing is a human right and believe Toronto should be inclusive and welcoming to all.

Summary

More Neighbours Toronto supports this use of funds, fee exemptions and incentives for affordable housing and urges you to vote in favour of Item PH34.8. These projects will provide nearly 1000 homes with a range of affordability, including workforce housing and supportive homes. This is vital as the cost of housing continues to force more people out of Toronto, which will have <u>economic impacts</u> and prevents us from being the inclusive and diverse city that we say we want to be.

We encourage you to continue to look for ways to make the development and application review process more efficient, which will allow the Open Door funds to go further. Housing must remain a top priority for City Council and the selected projects will contribute to mixed-income communities across the city.

Sincerely,

Colleen Bailey More Neighbours Toronto