



Planning and Housing Committee

July 5, 2022

RE: PH35.8 Toronto Local Appeal Body – Chair’s 2021 Annual Report

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee

The Long Branch Neighbourhood Association (LBNA) supports Recommendation #7 in the TLAB Chair’s 2021 Annual report to “Create an Administrative Staff Navigator Role”.

The LBNA is run by a volunteer Board and is required to engage in numerous TLAB hearings as both a Party and Participant. The LBNA routinely supports residents in Long Branch with navigating the complexities of TLAB from the time that an appeal is initiated through to the completion of the hearing. Not every neighbourhood has an Association that they can turn to for support.

We were incorporated in 2018 and in recent years have received requests for assistance from at least a dozen groups of residents from neighbourhoods outside Long Branch for assistance and with questions regarding preparations for TLAB hearings in their neighbourhoods. We agree that the TLAB appeals process is complex. It is not a process that is easy for individuals to engage in for their first time. And it should not be expected that residents engage in TLAB appeals multiple times.

We agree that there is a strong need for a TLAB “Navigator” role to assist the public better understand the TLAB appeals process and feel that this position would be very beneficial.

We submit that a TLAB “Navigator” role is also required for the City to create an environment of equality and access for all residents to the TLAB appeals process.

Sincerely,

Christine Mercado
Chair
Long Branch Neighbourhood Association

Judy Gibson
Chair, Tree Canopy Preservation and Enhancement Committee
Long Branch Neighbourhood Association

