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Re CC4.1 Property Taxes, User Fees, and Related Matters – RentSafeTO Officers

Mayor & Council,

We greatly appreciate the great work that RentSafeTO officers do to support tenants across the city and in our wards. While Carleton Grant and his team should be commended for the reducing response times in recent years, there is still more to be done.

The average response time for inadequate heat last year was 1.3 days, which is too long for a resident to wait in a freezing cold apartment. Response times for property standards complaints are on average almost five (5) days. We can do better.

That's why we have worked together on a motion to add eight (8) new RentSafeTO officers. These new inspectors will help improve response times and allow for more building audits to identify issues with boilers, air conditioning, and leaks to prevent problems before they impact tenants.

The eight (8) new officers will be funded by a \$3.44 increase in the per unit fee for landlords, and will not impact the tax rate. This is the first increase to the program beyond cost of living adjustments since the program's inception in 2017.

We have been assured by City Staff that the fee is well under the threshold required to trigger an Above Guideline Rent Increase (AGI) for renters.

Thank you for consideration of our motion.



Councillor Josh Matlow
City Councillor
Toronto – St. Paul's



Councillor Jamaal Myers
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