

April 25, 2023

Economic & Community Development Committee Meeting
Via email: ecdc@toronto.ca



Dear Committee Members,

RE: EC3.13 Review of policies and procedures related to Warming Centres -

Please **amend** and **adopt** the agenda item: Zero Waste Hub Toronto echoes calls to amend this item from Shelter and Housing Justice Network*. Also:

1. Immediately cease evictions of encampments, and destruction of survival gear (and trucking of it to Green Lane Landfill which impacts 3+ First Nations communities). Be reminded and remind all staff immediately the City must uphold Toronto's **Reconciliation Action Plan, Long Term Waste Management Strategy, circular economy** principles and aspirational **zero waste** goal, and can improve its credibility and people's perception of and receptiveness to Toronto's various initiatives, messaging and communications by upholding and complying with these first.
2. Circulate Toronto's HTO To Go water trailers among parks, and turn on water access at parks, community centres and other civic buildings. Not doing so is contrary to Council's past orders to staff that have been ignored and left residents and businesses to obtain, transport, and distribute 200K+ single use water bottles since 2020 alone.
3. Create: 10,000 permanently deeply affordable adequate accessible safe housing units in Toronto that are move-in ready and filled in 2023 by those who are the most in need; and 90,000 such units within four years. **Reason:** all Torontonians have the right to housing and **equitable access** to be able to comply with the **federal single-use plastics ban** and **meaningfully participate** in Toronto's **waste reduction** initiatives and aspirational **zero waste** goal to the degree they are able to, including **having a home to wash and store reusables in**.
4. Increase funding and supports to Toronto's drop in and other social service and support agencies: they must be able to restore their full staffing and program levels after past City funding cuts, not to mention obtain, use, collect, wash, and store reusables.

Thank you,

Ms. A. Pope, Coordinator (Volunteer), Toronto, ON M6J 0A8

Zero Waste Hub Toronto (est. 2018) is a grassroots not for profit organization, the founder and organizer of Toronto's first two zero waste fairs (2018 and 2019), and works with established local organizations and green groups to help promote waste reduction education, awareness and opportunities, and create a zero waste future for Toronto.

* <https://twitter.com/SHJNetwork/status/1648855285916745729>