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January 5, 2022

Re: Accelerating Approvals for Affordable Housing

To the Members of Planning & Housing Committee:

Background:

On May 11, 2022, City Council expressed general support for the policies underpinning the Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator (CIHA) tool. On December 19, 2022, the Town of Bowmanville used the CHIA to expedite approval of an 84-unit affordable housing project.

I'd like to request that City Planning, along with City Legal and any other relevant divisions, explore the feasibility of utilizing this new tool created by the Province of Ontario to expedite zonings and approvals for priority affordable housing projects, including but not limited to:

- Housing Now sites;
- Rapid Housing Initiative;
- Modular Housing Initiative;
- Toronto Community Housing Corporation sites;
- Affordable rental housing; and
- Co-op and non-profit housing.

Recommendation:

1. That the Planning and Housing Committee request that the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning Division, in consultation with City Legal and any other relevant divisions, report to Planning and Housing Committee in April 2023 with a report on the feasibility of applying the Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator tool to Housing Now sites, along with other priority affordable housing projects.

Respectfully,

Brad Bradford

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