

From: [Bryan Purcell](#)
To: [Planning and Housing](#)
Subject: [External Sender] TAF comments on PH3.19
Date: April 26, 2023 4:46:46 PM

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to communicate The Atmospheric Fund's (TAF) strong support for the staff recommendations on item PH3.19 (Toronto Green Standard Update). Over the past number of years, TAF has funded a number of research projects on embodied carbon in new construction, in partnership with City Planning and other stakeholders. These research projects engaged leading experts from the academic sector and industry, and involved extensive consultation with stakeholders in the development industry. We are delighted to see these research projects directly informing the proposed updates to the Toronto Green Standard (TGS).

There is growing recognition that addressing embodied carbon in new construction is critical to achieving a net zero society. Nevertheless, this is a relatively new area of attention for regulators, industry, and design professionals. Staff have proposed a balanced and measured approach to addressing the issue, by introducing embodied carbon emissions caps in the the voluntary tiers of the TGS. Tier 2 and 3 projects are leading edge projects undertaken by industry leaders who are eligible to receive significant financial incentives. Starting with these projects allows industry leaders to demonstrate the design and material choices needed to meet embodied carbon caps, while sending a clear signal to the broader industry and materials suppliers. Embodied carbon emissions caps can then be transitioned to the mandatory Tier 1 requirements in a subsequent update, once the industry is ready, as proposed by staff.

In closing, TAF endorses the staff recommendations on this item, and I want to thank City Planning staff for their ongoing excellence in developing and refining a world-class green building standard in the TGS.

Sincerely,

Bryan Purcell
Vice-President of Policy and Programs
[The Atmospheric Fund](#)

P.S. I acknowledge that my comments on this item will become part of the public record.