

Dear Planning and Housing Comittee,

RE: PH5.1 - Bill 109 Implementation, Phase 2 - Recommended Official Plan and Municipal Code Amendments respecting Delegated Authority for Minor Zoning By-laws

About More Neighbours Toronto

More Neighbours Toronto is a volunteer-only organization of housing advocates that believe in building more multi-family homes of all kinds for those who dream of building their lives in Toronto. We advocate for reforms to increase our city's ability to build more homes in every neighbourhood. We are a big-tent organization with members across the political spectrum who are committed to counterbalancing the anti-housing agenda that has dominated Toronto's politics, created an affordability crisis, and cost burdened a new generation of aspiring residents. We are firmly committed to the principle that housing is a human right and believe Toronto should be inclusive and welcoming to all.

Position

More Neighbours Toronto supports the recommendations in the report and urges Council to delegate minor zoning amendments to the Chief Planner.

Delegating minor zoning amendments, removal of "holding" symbol, and stylistic/technical changes to the Chief Planner, Executive Director, and City Solicitor will streamline planning processes and help meet the timelines required by Bill 109. Allowing the Chief Planner to make housekeeping updates to zoning bylaws will free up time and attention for Council to focus on other actions needed to end the housing crisis.

Furthermore, the current patchwork of zoning bylaws creates unnecessary complications and roadblocks to constructing much needed housing. Harmonizing zoning by incorporating lands in Zoning Bylaw 569-2013 is an important step, and as the zoning bylaw itself has already been approved by Council we see no need for individual sites to also be rezoned by Council.

Regards,

Alena Parkinson More Neighbours Toronto