



**GOOD SHEPHERD
MINISTRIES™**
WELCOME HOMELESS

November 23, 2023

City Clerk's Office
Nancy Martins, Planning and Housing Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto ON
M5H 2N2

Attention Councillor Gord Perks, Chair, Planning and Housing Committee

Re: Planning and Housing Committee Item PH8.10
Open Doors Incentives to Support 856 Affordable Rental Homes

Dear Councillor Gord Perks and Committee Members,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Mayor Chow, you, and your committee and staff for the outstanding support we have received through the Open-Doors Program. Your invaluable contributions have propelled us one step closer to realizing our vision of providing affordable supportive housing for 95 low-income seniors who have experienced homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless.

Furthermore, I extend our appreciation to Councillor Thompson for his dedicated guidance, which has played a pivotal role in advancing this project. Thanks to his assistance, we are now shovel-ready and poised to make a meaningful impact.

Our overarching objective is to establish housing where 95 low-income seniors can age in a dignified manner. The development of Mathias Place, situated at 1731 Lawrence Ave. E., will feature 24-hour onsite support from caseworkers and personal support workers. Upon full implementation, the project is expected to generate approximately 60 full-time jobs, contributing to additional economic development in the neighborhood.

Having served homeless and marginalized individuals since 1963, Good Shepherd Ministries sees a strengthened future through this partnership with the City. Together, we can address the pressing need for more affordable housing.

Once again, thank you for your unwavering support, and we look forward to continuing this collaborative effort toward a more inclusive and supportive community.

Sincerely,

Aklilu Wendaferew, MSW, RSW
Executive Director

T. 416.869.3619 F. 416.869.3680
412 QUEEN STREET EAST TORONTO ONTARIO M5A 1T3

GOODSHEPHERD.CA