



**MORE NEIGHBOURS
TORONTO**

Dear Members of Toronto City Council,

RE: TE 6.21 - 325 Gerrard Street East (Regent Park Phases 4 and 5) - Zoning By-law Amendment and Rental Housing Demolition Applications

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed application for the revitalization of 325 Gerrard Street East. As a member of More Neighbours Toronto and a resident of Toronto Centre residing a 15 minute walk from the development, I believe that this transformative project holds immense potential to enhance our community and improve the quality of life for all residents in the area.

First, the revitalization of Regent Park into a mixed-use, mixed-income neighbourhood aligns with the vision of creating inclusive and sustainable communities. By amending the zoning by-laws to permit the proposed development, which includes a diverse range of housing options, the project will contribute to the socio-economic diversity of the area. The inclusion of replacement social housing units and new affordable housing units is commendable, as it ensures the preservation and expansion of vital housing options for present and as importantly- future residents.

Additionally, the proposed development will bring numerous benefits to the community. The provision of retail and office spaces will both create job opportunities *and* contribute to the local economy. The inclusion of community spaces and a relocated Toronto Public Library branch will foster a sense of belonging, provide accessible resources, and encourage social interactions among both school aged residents, and seniors. These amenities are invaluable in promoting community engagement and cohesion, as well as supporting the needs of the neighbourhood.

The amendment to the existing Section 37 Agreement to accommodate the demolition and replacement of social housing units demonstrates a commitment to responsible urban development. The project's emphasis on ensuring the fulfilment of the overall obligation to replace all social housing units that existed in Regent Park prior to the revitalization is commendable. This commitment to maintaining affordable housing options underscores the project's dedication to the well-being and stability of our community.

In sum, I firmly believe that the proposed application will greatly benefit our community and the city as a whole. The mixed-use, mixed-income nature of the development, the provision of replacement social housing units, and the inclusion of community and public spaces highlight a holistic approach to urban revitalization. As a resident of Moss Park, I fully support this project and encourage you to grant the necessary approvals.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter. I trust that you will make a decision that is in the best interest of our community and its future.

Regards,

Jay Pandya
M5A 1N4 - Ward 13

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