



September 24th, 2024.

Ms. Olivia Chow
Mayor
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen St. W.
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2
mayor_chow@toronto.ca

RE: Deputation on the Proposed Development TE16.5 - 214-230 Sherbourne Street - Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment Application

Dear Mayor Olivia Chow and Members of the Toronto and East York Community Council,

I write to you on behalf of Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO), a collective of grassroots organizations, community workers, and advocates dedicated to securing affordable housing and promoting responsible development in our communities.

We are calling on the City of Toronto to reject the proposal by Kingsett Capital to build a 46-storey condo at [214-230 Sherbourne Street](#). Instead, we urge the City to take immediate and decisive action to acquire this property for the purpose of developing social housing. The current shelter system is overwhelmed, and many are left with no viable options for housing. People are dying on our streets, and it is unacceptable that the financial interests of development companies like Kingsett Capital are allowed to take precedence over human life.

Kingsett Capital has previously acted in a way that hindered the City's ability to build much-needed social housing at this site. The City must not engage in business as usual with companies that obstruct social progress and perpetuate the housing crisis for profit. The public good must be prioritized over corporate greed, and if necessary, we call on the City to take steps to expropriate this property.

Building a condominium on this site instead of social housing will only exacerbate the existing housing crisis in this community. It will force the displacement of vulnerable residents, rather than providing the support and stability that is desperately needed. The City of Toronto has a unique opportunity here to take meaningful action in response to the severe housing and homelessness crisis affecting so many. We urge you to reject Kingsett's proposal and direct City staff to move forward with acquiring 214-230 Sherbourne for the purpose of creating social housing.

Moreover, we challenge Kingsett Capital's business model, which profits from the rezoning application process, unlocking the land's value for private development. It is imperative that the

City rethink this model and incentivize the creation of social housing rather than rewarding for-profit developers like Kingsett. Toronto's approach to development must shift toward prioritizing long-term community well-being and sustainability, not short-term corporate profits.

In closing, we call on the Toronto and East York Community Council to reject this harmful proposal and take every necessary action to ensure that 214-230 Sherbourne is used for social housing that will serve our community for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Walied Khogali Ali', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Walied Khogali Ali

Coordinator

Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO)

The Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO) embodies a consortium of grassroots organizations, community workers, and advocates, all rallying under a unified mission to bolster the economic livelihoods and enhance the overall well-being of low-income individuals and communities across Toronto.