

Dear Members of City Council,

RE: CC23.10 - 38 Walmer Road and 188 Lowther Avenue - Ontario Land Tribunal Hearing - Request for Directions

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 more homes at 38 Walmer Road. The Walmer Road Baptist Church has undertaken extensive community engagement and developed a plan to provide more homes on the site of a former parking lot in this walkable and transit-accessible neighbourhood. In addition, the housing would allow funds to repair and maintain the heritage church building.

There are a wide variety of building types on Walmer, including many apartments that likely would not be approved today because they do not meet floor plate requirements or other design guidelines. The process for this proposed apartment has already taken over two years in an effort to meet the concerns of some neighbours. This is a great deal of time during a housing crisis for a site near two subway lines in an area that has been losing population. We hope to see the City support this proposal.

Regards, Colleen Bailey, More Neighbours Toronto