



# Alejandra Bravo

CITY COUNCILLOR | CHAIR, ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY  
WARD 9 • DAVENPORT | DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

June 19, 2024

## RE: A Framework to Advance Inclusive Economic Development in Toronto

Dear Members of Economic and Community Development Committee (ECDC),

At the March 28 meeting of ECDC, City staff from several divisions presented an Inclusive Economic Development (IED) Framework intended to help coordinate the City's myriad efforts to improve economic opportunities and outcomes across Toronto's population and neighbourhoods. This critical initiative will impact key operational procedures and projects and includes advancing neighbourhood / area focused community economic development.

When the item was considered, Councillors raised a number of foundational questions including about proposed definitions, utilizing the available levers at the City's disposal, as well as how organizations driving community development work should be engaged. ECDC deferred the framework for consideration until its meeting on July 4. Community economic development practices indicate that those organizations that represent and serve people with lived experience of marginalization should be central to defining problems, identifying and implementing solutions, and monitoring progress. With this in mind, I am recommending that the item be referred to staff for additional work. I will also work with staff to convene a table with community economic development leaders and organizations.

I will be moving the following motion on the item:

That the Economic and Community Development Committee refer the item to the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture, the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration, the Executive Director, Employment and Social Services, and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, with the request that they report to the November 26, 2024 meeting of the Economic and Community Development Committee with a revised framework that builds on input from community partners.

Building a table with community development partners will help ensure the IED framework can evolve and be responsive to the Committee's previous questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Alejandra Bravo  
City Councillor, Ward 9, Davenport  
Chair, Economic and Community Development Committee