

From: [Bird Friendly City Toronto](#)
To: [Infrastructure and Environment](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2024.IE10.4 on January 9, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Date: January 4, 2024 5:49:16 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the January 9, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2024.IE10.4, Endangered Species Habitat Replacement on Public Lands

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments: Bird Friendly City Toronto supports Councillor Saxe's proposal. It would be of great benefit to species such as chimney swifts. Chimney swifts, like other aerial insectivores, have seen a steep decline in their numbers. This decline is due to several factors including the loss of nesting habitat. Nesting for chimney swifts is at risk due to the removal of chimneys from the urban landscape. Chimney swifts rely on these habitats however they are disappearing as older buildings are replaced or chimneys are capped. Developers have options such as preserving existing chimneys or creating new habitat. Chimney swift towers are purpose-built habitats that, if built correctly, can provide a suitable replacement habitat. The Manitoba Chimney Swift Initiative adopted an existing tower design to create successful artificial habitat for swifts. Swift towers are relatively small, require no special building material and can be built to fit with existing architectural and natural landscapes.

Diana Turchin,
Chair, Bird Friendly City Toronto