

June 13, 2024

RE: PH13.8 - Launching the Rental Housing Supply Program

Dear Members of Toronto City Council and the Planning and Housing Committee,

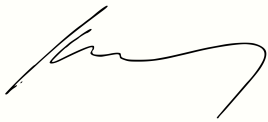
Toronto Environmental Alliance supports the City of Toronto's Rental Housing Supply Program and strongly recommends that any City-led housing programs align with the City's own TransformTO goals for sustainable buildings. This includes a 2030 goal that "all new homes and buildings will be designed to be near zero greenhouse gas emissions."

We support Council's previous directions that City-led Housing Now projects achieve more ambitious tiers of the Toronto Green Standard. **We recommend that new developments continue to meet higher tiers of the Toronto Green Standard as the TGS progresses into TGS Version 5 and beyond.**

Studies have shown that environmentally-efficient homes are cheaper to operate and healthier for residents. Further, environmentally-efficient buildings reduce future retrofit costs — such buildings tend to be better constructed, requiring fewer health and safety retrofits in the future, and building as close to zero emissions today reduces the need for more expensive retrofits over the next 16 years as we move to Net Zero by 2040.

How we build homes in Toronto has a significant impact on the health of residents as well as on the City's carbon emissions. As Toronto launches into a new era of homebuilding, ensuring that these buildings align with the City's climate and sustainability goals will safeguard human health, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce operating costs for tenants, and reduce future capital retrofit costs that would be required to meet Toronto's 2040 Net Zero goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'How-Sen Chong', is placed over a light yellow rectangular background.

How-Sen Chong
Climate Campaigner
Toronto Environmental Alliance