

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

RE: PH13.5 - Modular Housing Initiative Phase 2: Update Report, and Amendments to Purchase Order Numbers 6052027 and 6052881 issued to NRB Inc. for Design-Build Services for Supportive Housing

About More Neighbours Toronto

<u>More Neighbours Toronto</u> 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 is **supportive of City of Toronto staff's request to Council** for the authority to restart and complete the Modular Housing Initiative projects at 175 Cummer Ave. and 39 Dundalk Drive by approving Purchase Order Amendments for both projects to ensure funding is in place to complete the required work.

More Neighbours Toronto also **supports the recommendations** from the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat, Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management and Chief Procurement Officer that recommend that:

1. Planning and Housing Committee, in accordance with Section 71-11.1C of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 71 (Financial Control By-law), authorize the amendment of Purchase Order Number 6052027 issued to NRB Inc. for design-build services for the supportive housing building located at 175 Cummer Avenue, as set out in Confidential Attachment 1.

2. Planning and Housing Committee, in accordance with Section 71-11.1C of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 71 (Financial Control By-law), authorize the amendment of Purchase Order Number 6052881 issued to NRB Inc. for design-build services for the supportive housing building located at 39 Dundalk Drive, as set out in Confidential Attachment 1.

3. Planning and Housing Committee authorize the public release of Confidential Attachment 1 following the conclusion of negotiations and issuance of the Purchase Order Amendments referenced in the report.

4. Planning and Housing Committee authorize the public release of Confidential Attachment 2 following completion of the projects referenced in this report.

5. Planning and Housing Committee, authorize the award of contracts to NRB Inc. under the Request for Proposal No. 2020-053 for Modular Housing Design Build at 175 Cummer Avenue and 39 Dundalk Drive, in accordance with the requirements of the Request for Proposal Document and the CCDC-14 executed Agreements.

The number of people in Toronto actively experiencing homeless continues to grow, with approximately 11,000 people actively homeless in Toronto in the last three months according to the City of Toronto's Shelter System Flow Monthly Snapshot. Building supportive housing with wraparound services is critical to providing residents with housing and the community and social supports needed to ensure their transition to housing is successful.

More Neighbours Toronto is supportive of City of Toronto staff recommendations to ensure these projects can be rapidly completed, recognizing 175 Cummer Ave. has been delayed for over 20 months, impacting vulnerable residents who desperately require the type of supportive housing that this project would deliver.

Proceeding with the necessary Council approvals to restart and complete the Modular Housing Initiative projects is critical to prioritizing funding, government commitments and resources to deliver new safe, affordable supportive housing for some of Toronto's most vulnerable residents experiencing, or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

Regards, Sarah Burrell, More Neighbours Toronto