



House of Compassion

Walking the Journey Together

July 10, 2024

Dear Planning and Housing Committee Members,

On behalf of House of Compassion, I am writing to express our strong support for Deputy Mayor Ausma Malik's recommendations outlined in PH14.13 - Expanding Permitted Uses in Laneway and Garden Suites.

As a high-support housing provider celebrating our 35th year of operation in Toronto, we are particularly enthusiastic about the potential this initiative holds for enhancing housing options across the city. House of Compassion has a vested interest in this matter, as evidenced by our recent successful minor variance application to construct a laneway suite at our property on Shaw Street. This suite will provide an additional five supportive housing units, furthering our mission to offer safe and supportive housing to those in need in Toronto.

We commend Deputy Mayor Malik's recommendation for City Council to request a review by the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, on the feasibility of amending the Zoning By-law to permit additional residential uses in ancillary buildings - including but not limited to multi-tenant homes, group homes, and residential care homes. Such an amendment would significantly contribute to addressing Toronto's housing crisis by increasing the availability of diverse and affordable housing options. We believe that by expanding the permitted uses of laneway and garden suites, the city can provide more flexible and inclusive housing solutions that cater to the varied needs of its residents.

We urge the Planning and Housing Committee to support this recommendation and expedite the review process. The potential benefits of this initiative align with our commitment to providing high-quality, supportive housing and addressing the broader housing needs of Toronto's residents.

Thank you for considering our perspective on this important matter. We look forward to the positive impact this initiative will have on our community and the city at large.

Yours Sincerely,

Ryan Tucker
Executive Director
House of Compassion
169-171 ½ Shaw Street
Toronto, ON
M6J 2W6
Telephone: 416.536.2811
Email: rtucker@hotoronto.com