

Dear Members of Toronto Planning and Housing Committee

RE: PH14.6 - Advancing the Construction of Affordable Rental Homes at 777 Victoria Park Avenue

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.

Summary of Position

More Neighbours Toronto welcomes and supports plans to advance the construction of affordable purpose-built rental housing at 777 Victoria Park Avenue as part of the City of Toronto's Housing Now Initiative in support of new mixed-use, mixed-income communities on City-owned lands.

More Neighbours Toronto is strongly supportive of the stated plans for the land to remain in public ownership in perpetuity through a 99 year land lease. Furthermore, the site's inclusion of a range of rental homes, mixed-use retail and community spaces at-grade, and a new child-care facility will help ensure that the site at 777 Victoria Park Avenue will be developed as a mixed-use complete community.

The housing crisis in Toronto and across Canada is a call to action for City Council to expedite the Housing Now project at 777 Victoria Park Avenue for the city to realize a significant number of new affordable rental homes that will remain in public ownership, and affordable in perpetuity.

Regards,

Sarah Burrell More Neighbours Toronto