

September 24, 2024

Chair and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee Toronto City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Via e-mail: phc@toronto.ca

PH15.6 - Increasing the City's Supply of Accessible Affordable Housing

Chair and Members of the Planning and Housing Committee:

We are pleased to have this opportunity to comment with respect to the above noted item on behalf of the Residential Construction Council of Ontario (RESCON).

RESCON is Ontario's leading association of residential builders. We are committed to providing leadership and fostering innovation in the industry. Our members build 80% of the residential homes constructed across Ontario.

RESCON supports City of Toronto efforts to increase the supply of affordable and accessible housing across the City. However, while the objectives outlined in this report are laudable, we are concerned that the target of 100% accessible housing units proposed within the Staff Report will be very challenging to realize and will potentially negatively impact the goal of creating as much affordable housing as possible.

RESCON is also concerned that the included list of accessible design and building solutions emerged without needed discussion with the residential construction industry. The list as presented, makes bold and inaccurate assumptions that we believe the City will struggle to implement in a practical and cost-effective manner. This may serve to further set back the initial goal of increasing the number of affordable units available to those in need. We urge Council to reconsider what is being proposed and allow for additional time to fully and thoroughly consider the proposals within the Staff Report.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit our comments on this issue.

Yours truly,

Richard Lyall President