

Date: October 9, 2024

To: *The Planning and Housing Committee*

From: Architecture Unfolded Inc.

As an architecture firm deeply embedded in the Toronto community, we have observed significant changes in the housing market, particularly the ongoing crisis that continues to affect countless residents. The lack of affordable housing is at the heart of many social challenges in our city today, from rising homelessness to the displacement of long-time residents.

In our work, we've seen firsthand how the scarcity of affordable housing impacts the communities we design for. Families are increasingly pushed to the outskirts of the city, resulting in longer commutes and diminished quality of life. This not only affects individuals but also undermines the rich diversity and vibrancy that make Toronto a remarkable place to live and work.

We would like to formally endorse the Position Paper prepared by Home Opportunities on behalf of the Co-operative Home Ownership Sector. We strongly support the inclusion of their recommendations in the report from the Housing Secretariat when it is reviewed by your Committee. These recommendations are essential for addressing the urgent need for affordable housing solutions in our city.

We cannot afford to miss this opportunity to return to the production levels of affordable housing that defined Toronto in the 1980s—when the city was producing 10,000 units a year. As architects, we are eager to contribute to this effort by designing innovative and sustainable housing solutions that cater to the needs of all Torontonians.

We look forward to the possibility of appearing before the Council to reinforce our endorsement of Home Opportunities and to discuss these critical issues further. Together, we can advocate for a Toronto where affordable housing is accessible to everyone, fostering strong and resilient communities.

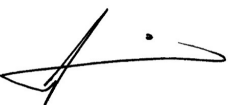
Sincerely yours,

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