

Dear Members of Toronto and East York Community Council,

RE: TE15.2 - 1337-1355 King Street West - Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment, and Rental Housing Demolition Applications - Decision Report - Approval

About More Neighbours Toronto

More Neighbours Toronto 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 supports these Zoning By-law Amendment and Rental Housing Demolition Applications. This development provides 100% affordable rental units provided by an established community group in the Parkdale United Church Foundation. It will add to the much needed supply of affordable rental housing using a proven model.

There is not only full rental replacement, but tenant relocation and financial assistance during construction. The relocation is less than a block from the existing buildings, preserving the existing tenants' connections to the neighbourhood.

The new development will provide additional amenity space not only to the new and returning tenants, but to the tenants of the affordable rental building next door. The site is an excellent candidate for densification with many nearby neighbourhood amenities, as well as good biking and transit connections.

This is exactly the type of project that the City of Toronto's Open Door Affordable Rental Housing Program was meant to support. We strongly encourage members of the Community Council to approve this project, and to work with City Planning staff to continue to refine and reform our planning processes and By-laws to make projects like this faster and easier to build in the future.

Regards,

Damien Moule, More Neighbours Toronto