

Maintaining Housing Working Group
Working Group 3 – Meeting 2 – January 9, 2025

Present

Saroja Ponnambalam (Working Group Chair)
Joy Connelly
Nicole Alexander

Regrets

Harmy Mendoza

Housing Secretariat Support

Asha Sivarajah

Notes

Given this working group's focus on maintaining housing, the group identified the following key priorities for discussion and future work: Rental Replacement Policy, Renovictions By-law, the mid-point review of the HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan, and the Multi-Tenant Home Renovation Program.

1. Chair Updates

- Provided update that the Right2Housing has expressed interest in presenting at a future HRAC meeting on its evaluation framework for the HousingTO Action Plan, aligned with a human rights-based approach

2. Working Group Key Priorities

- Rental Replacement Policy
 - HRAC members were invited to attend a consultation of the Rental Replacement Policy on January 8, 2025, five members attended
 - Raised the importance of continuing to be involved in the Rental Replacement Policy at the consultation stage and include advocacy related to tenant rights and preserving affordable housing
 - Discussed how 'No Demovictions' may be engaged in HRAC's work and priorities around this issue
- Renovictions By-Law
 - Expressed interest in learning about the City's implementation of the Renovictions by-law and where there may be opportunities to consult, especially with regard to protecting against unintended displacement of tenants
- HousingTO Action Plan - Mid-Point Review
 - Interested in exploring how the Mid-Point Review to help measure and keep track of maintaining affordable housing in the city
- Multi-Tenant Home (MTH) Renovation Program
 - Increasing opportunities for community consultation in the implementation of the MTH Framework and MTH Renovation Program is critical to mitigating unintended tenant displacement
 - Raised that the City's Eviction Prevention in the Community (EPIC) unit should consider preparing for the potential displacement of MTH residents

3. City Budget Process & Considerations

- Discussed advocacy opportunities for increased funding in the 2025 City Budget, for the MTH Renovation Program
- The 2024 City Budget allocated \$2 million for all repairs and was not sufficient for the scope of the repairs that are needed to bring MTH to standard

4. HRAC Meeting Considerations

- Next Steps
 - Working group member will provide a deputation on the budget for the MTH Renovation Program and depute (as an individual and not on behalf of HRAC) at a Budget Subcommittee Meeting
 - Working group Chair to provide an update on working group meeting
 - Working group will draft and submit communications to HRAC advocating for increased budget allocation for the MTH Renovation Program
 - If adopted, the communications may be transmitted onto the budget item at the City Council meeting on February 11, 2025
 - Housing Secretariat may be able to provide support in terms of understanding budget allocations for certain programs

5. Work Plan for Council Term

- Tabled for next Working Group meeting

Working group ended at 2:36 pm.