July 11th, 2025

City of Toronto – Planning and Housing Committee Toronto City Hall 100 Queen St. West Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Letter of Support for Item PH23.3 – Advancing Six Sites for the Homelessness Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy

Dear Members of the Committee,

St. Clare's is writing in support of the Zoning By-Law Amendments to permit the creation of emergency shelter space that has the design foresight to be converted to affordable housing.

As an affordable housing provider with a mandate to provide safe affordable, low barrier housing with supports to help tenants remain housed, we know how difficult it is for people who have experienced homelessness to transition to permanent housing. Having a form of housing that provides a place on the housing spectrum that can provide housing that is a step between homelessness and permanent housing will promote the housing success of many people who experience difficulty with that transition: the smaller shared spaces will be healthier and provide more dignity than large communal sleeping areas, and the design allows for the potential of a transition of purpose from shelter to permanent supportive housing.

Our City is experiencing a crisis of homelessness, and every opportunity in every neighbourhood needs to be embraced: these Zoning By-Law Amendments represent forward thinking design and action to address the crisis, in a wide variety of wards across the City

Sincerely,

Andrea Adams Executive Director, St. Clare's Housing