



**MORE NEIGHBOURS
TORONTO**

Dear Members of the Planning and Housing Committee,

RE: 2025.PH23.3 Advancing Six Sites for the Homelessness Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy (HSCIS) - City-Initiated Official Plan Amendment and Six Zoning By-law Amendments - 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 thanks City Staff for their continued work under the Homelessness Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy (HSCIS). We strongly support item PH23.3 and urge this committee to approve the Zoning By-Law and Official Plan amendments for these six sites.

The City of Toronto desperately needs more shelter spaces with requisite supports. These six rezonings by themselves do not secure all the supports necessary to build and operate these shelters. But they are crucial to secure the space necessary for the proposed 420 new beds. Any changes to reduce the size of the buildings, such as decreased height or increased setbacks, will decrease the number of shelter beds and should not be considered.

We do note that while shelters are permitted uses in all residential zones under the City's Zoning By-Law, all of these sites still needed additional By-Law amendments or Official Plan amendments to be allowed. This added time and cost to building these shelters. This is another example where the City's restrictive zoning has worked against the City's own goals and projects.

The number of people without shelter and homes in Toronto is an emergency and we need to treat it as such. The rezoning for these sites should be approved and constructed as quickly as possible.

Regards,
Talía Pankewycz and Damien Moule
More Neighbours Toronto