

**From:** [Rhiannon Jones](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#); [Councillor Perks](#); [Councillor Nunziata](#); [Councillor Crisanti](#); [Councillor Matlow](#); [Councillor Myers](#); [Councillor Bradford](#); [Planning and Housing](#)  
**Cc:** [Councillor Morley](#)  
**Subject:** [External Sender] URGENT: Refer PH26.10; Permanent Closure of a Portion of the Public Laneway at 66-66Y Third Street (Ward 3) to The Etobicoke York Community Council  
**Date:** December 2, 2025 1:24:01 PM

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Dear Members of the Planning & Housing Committee and City Clerk,

I am writing to formally request that the above noted agenda item be referred to the Etobicoke York Community Council as it does not under the jurisdiction of the Planning and Housing Committee

The permanent closure of a public highway in Toronto is governed by section 38 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, which requires public notice and an opportunity for affected persons to be heard.

City Council has delegated these statutory hearings to Community Councils, as set out in Municipal Code Chapter 27. Toronto's established practice is for permanent road and laneway closures to be reviewed first by the relevant Community Council, before Council enacts the closure by-law.

Routing the hearing to the Planning and Housing Committee:

- Restricts the ward councillor's ability to represent constituents during the statutory stage.
- Denies residents access to their local Community Council forum, undermining the purpose of delegated hearings under Chapter 27.
- Establishes procedural unfairness, especially for residents with mobility challenges who rely on in-person participation.
- Set a new precedent, eroding the procedural foundations of Toronto City Council governance and confidence of your constituents.

The Planning and Housing Committee lacks jurisdiction to conduct the statutory hearing under section 38.

The hearing should be held by the Etobicoke York Community Council, with proper notice before any closure by-law proceeds to City Council.

While the agenda item notes the development of a Shelter as of City-wide significance, there are several steps to enact city-wide projects that must be heard at the appropriate council. As an example, when the City updates the Official Plan or adopts a city-wide housing policy, the item goes to the Planning and Housing Committee. But when a single property needs a site-specific zoning amendment to implement that policy, it is always

heard at the local Community Council. The City separates the city-wide policy from the local statutory action.

I am asking that you remove this item from the Planning and Housing Committee meeting and refer this item to the rightful committee; Etobicoke York Community Council.

Sincerely,

Rhiannon Jones  
Constituent of Ward 3  
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