

**Re: 2025.PH26.10 - Permanent Closure of a Portion of the Public Laneway at 66-66Y Third Street**

Dear Planning & Housing Committee,

We enthusiastically support and urge the partial closure of the public laneway at 66-66Y Third Street in order to break ground on the adjacent proposed HSCIS shelter, also at 66-66Y Third Street. As we approach the coldest days of the year, Etobians and Torontonians need to have access to housing and shelter *yesterday*. Many unhoused seniors we encounter in our south Etobicoke communities also come from here rather than from afar.

They went to the same high schools, played on the same hockey teams and lived side by side as their similarly aged peers: life and the dismantling of social supports have just dealt them a bad hand. If we can't have the housing this year, then we need it next winter. We need the requisite housing to keep people out of the cold and in our communities as soon as possible, rather than having them committed to hospitals or thrown into prisons; both of which are more expensive options. Further delay and inaction will only thrust us worse into crisis, cause unnecessary death and tear families, friends and communities apart rather than keeping them together.

With provincial Bill 60 at the helm; decimating renters' rights and the collapse of new housing construction in Toronto, we urge the Planning & Housing Committee and City Council to follow through on the commitments outlined in 2025.PH23.3 and the HSCIS strategy and approve the closure of the public laneway at 66-66Y Third Street.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus W. Sherlock

Etobicoke-Lakeshore Shelter Support Coalition