

Dear Members of Toronto and East York Community Council,

RE: TE19.4 - 55 Belmont Street - Zoning By-law Amendment - Decision Report - Approval

About More Neighbours Toronto

<u>More Neighbours Toronto</u> 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 supports this Zoning By-law Amendment. The City is in need of more long-term care capacity and this site near Rosedale station is an ideal location. These amendments will facilitate 168 additional long-term care beds and 30 assisted living units.

There is an urgent need for more long-term care beds in Toronto, and Belmont House is an experienced non-profit senior care provider. This need must outweigh that of the small number of vocal neighbours for whom concerns about shadow and traffic are regularly used to resist change. The proposed development is well-suited for this site, which is situated at the edge of downtown between 3 subway stops and where eleven storeys is a very reasonable height with precedent in existing buildings in all directions.

We hope that the City can continue its recent progress and support more projects like this one to help make a future in which it is easier for residents of all ages to live and thrive in Toronto.

Sincerely,

Colleen Bailey More Neighbours Toronto