

RE: MM41.8 - Strengthening Compliance and Coordination Across Multiplex Development-Related Enforcement Processes

To Mayor Chow, Members of City Council & City Clerk,

Scarborough United Neighbourhoods (SUN) supports the above Motion and Councillors' Recommendations.

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Environment, Climate and Forestry to report on the status of tree by-law enforcement actions, when appropriate, and for the 2027 Tree By-law Report to include information on the Compliance and Enforcement Enhancements providing a sufficient deterrent to tree by-law contraventions.
2. City Council request the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building, in consultation with the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, the Executive Director, Environment, Climate and Forestry, and the Executive Director, Development Review, to identify opportunities to strengthen the City's Residential Infill Strategy, to encourage good construction practices through education and enforcement, improved communication with residents and improved complaint management to address the issue of property damage as a result of construction activity on adjacent properties.

We concur with the Councillors that neighbourhood concerns have indeed been raised about repeated by-law violations and problematic building practices across several multiplex sites. Indeed news media have repeatedly raised issues with illegal activities associated with Multiplex buildings, especially illegal tree culling. (see attached partial list of media articles).

City Council needs to be reminded that this issue is not the first – just the latest Members motion on the matter, again emphasizing the importance and urgency of the matter. This motion builds upon current initiatives and ongoing operations, reinforcing existing direction to further deter future violations. An earlier motion regarding tree canopy protection made by Councillors Chernos Lin and Carroll was in large part driven by concerns about illegal culling associated with Multiplex buildings. Residents have expressed frustration with the impacts on neighbourhood safety and confidence in City oversight.

Community concerns have also been raised about the accuracy and integrity of materials submitted through the Committee of Adjustment process. Multiplex builds have been associated with these issues too.

Finally, we agree with Councilors that there are concerns where demolition or construction proceeded without required permits, as well as work occurring outside permitted hours.

While we may support the goal of increasing housing supply in Toronto, we are deeply concerned that the situation fundamentally leads to a loss of confidence in the City's ability to maintain a just, fair and law abiding process of application, approval and development of Multiplexes, and needs to be addressed Immediately.

Sincerely,

"Scarborough is Stronger Together"

Ron Parkinson, Spokesperson

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NOTE: The SUN is non-partisan to the information provided which is for community awareness & discussion purposes only.

