

605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West – Rental Housing Demolition Application – Decision Report – Approval

Date: June 15, 2026

To: North York Community Council

From: Director, Strategic Initiatives Policy and Analysis

Ward: 8 - Eglinton-Lawrence

Rental Housing Demolition Application Number: 25 246303 NNY 08 RH

Related Planning Application Number: 25 189462 NNY 08 OZ

SUMMARY

This report recommends approval of a Rental Housing Demolition application which proposes to demolish 8 rental dwelling units located in 7 detached houses at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West. The 8 rental units are proposed to be replaced as part of the new development on the site. The proposal includes a Tenant Assistance Plan that addresses the right of existing tenants to return to replacement rental units at similar rents and provides financial compensation to mitigate hardship.

The proposed development on the site at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West is the subject of a related Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment application (25 189462 NNY 08 OZ). The proposed development would permit a 13-storey mixed-use building with 266 dwelling units, including 8 replacement rental units. An approval report for the Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment application has been advanced concurrently with this Rental Housing Demolition application approval report.

This report also recommends approval of the Residential Demolition Permit under Chapter 363 of the Toronto Municipal Code, subject to conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis recommends that:

1. City Council approve the Rental Housing Demolition application 25 246303 NNY 08 RH in accordance with Chapter 667 of the Toronto Municipal Code and pursuant to

Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 to permit the demolition of 8 existing rental dwelling units located at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The owner shall provide and maintain 8 replacement rental dwelling units on the subject site for a period of at least 20 years beginning from the date that each replacement rental dwelling unit is first occupied and, during which time, no application may be submitted to the City for condominium registration, or for any other conversion to a non-rental housing purpose, or for demolition without providing for replacement;
- b. The replacement rental dwelling units required by Recommendation 1.a. above shall collectively have a total gross floor area of at least 1,095 square metres and be comprised of 2 two-bedroom units, 2 three-bedroom units, and 4 four-bedroom units, as generally illustrated in the plans submitted to City Planning dated May 26, 2026. Any revision to these plans shall be to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning;
- c. The owner shall, as part of the 8 replacement rental dwelling units required in Recommendation 1.a above, provide at least 2 two-bedroom units, 1 three-bedroom unit, and 3 four-bedroom units at affordable rents, and 1 three-bedroom unit and 1 four-bedroom unit at mid-range (moderate) rents, as currently defined in the City's Official Plan, all for a period of at least 10 years beginning from the date of first occupancy of each unit;
- d. The owner shall provide a Tenant Assistance Plan for tenants of the 8 existing rental dwelling units proposed to be demolished to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning;
- e. The owner shall provide tenants of all 8 replacement rental dwelling units with access to, and use of, all indoor and outdoor amenities in the proposed 13-storey building at no extra charge. Access to, and use of, these amenities shall be on the same terms and conditions as any other resident of the building without the need to pre-book or pay a fee, unless specifically required as a customary practice for private bookings;
- f. The owner shall provide ensuite laundry and central air conditioning in each replacement rental dwelling unit at no extra charge;
- g. The owner shall provide and make available for rent at least 8 vehicle parking spaces to tenants of the replacement rental dwelling units. Such parking spaces shall be made available firstly to returning tenants who previously rented a vehicle parking space, and at similar monthly parking charges that such tenants previously paid. The remaining vehicle parking spaces shall be made available to tenants of the replacement rental units to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning;

h. The owner shall provide tenants of all replacement rental dwelling units with access to bicycle and visitor parking on the same terms and conditions as any other resident of the proposed development;

i. The replacement rental dwelling units required in Recommendation 1.a. above shall be made ready and available for occupancy no later than the date by which 70% of the new dwelling units in the proposed development, exclusive of the replacement rental dwelling units, are made available and ready for occupancy, subject to any revisions to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning; and

j. The owner shall enter into, and register on title to the lands, an agreement pursuant to Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 to secure the conditions outlined in Recommendations 1.a. through 1.i. above all to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor and the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning.

2. City Council authorize the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, to issue Preliminary Approval of the Rental Housing Demolition Permit under Chapter 667 of the Toronto Municipal Code pursuant to Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006 for the demolition of the 8 existing rental dwelling units located at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West after all the following have occurred:

a. All conditions in Recommendation 1 above have been fully secured;

b. The Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments for application 25 189462 NNY 08 OZ have come into full force and effect;

c. The issuance of the Notice of Approval Conditions for site plan approval by the Executive Director, Development Review or their designate, pursuant to Section 114 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, or as otherwise determined by the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning;

d. The issuance of excavation and shoring permits (conditional or full permit) for the approved development on the site; and

e. The owner has confirmed, in writing, that all existing rental dwelling units proposed to be demolished are vacant.

3. City Council authorize the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building to issue a Rental Housing Demolition Permit under Chapter 667 of the Toronto Municipal Code after the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, or their designate, has given Preliminary Approval referred to in Recommendation 2 above.

4. City Council authorize the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building to issue a Residential Demolition Permit under Section 33 of the Planning Act and Chapter 363 of the Toronto Municipal Code for 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West after the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning has given Preliminary Approval referred to in Recommendation 2 above, which

may be included in the Rental Housing Demolition Permit under Chapter 667 pursuant to section 6.2 of Chapter 363, on condition that:

- a. The owner removes all debris and rubble from the site immediately after demolition;
- b. The owner erects solid construction hoarding to the satisfaction of the Chief Building Official and Executive Director, Toronto Building;
- c. The owner erects the proposed building on the site no later than three (3) years from the date that the demolition of the existing rental dwelling units commences, subject to the timeframe being extended at the discretion of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning; and
- d. Should the owner fail to complete the proposed building within the time specified in Recommendation 4.c. above, the City Clerk shall be entitled to enter on the collector's roll, as with municipal property taxes, an amount equal to the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) per dwelling unit for which a demolition permit is issued, and that such amount shall, until payment, be a lien or charge upon the land for which the Residential Demolition Permit is issued.

5. City Council authorize the appropriate City officials to take such actions as are necessary to implement City Council's decision, including execution of the Section 111 Agreement and any other related agreements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the recommendations included in this report in the current budget year or in future years.

THE SITE

Description

The site has an area of approximately 3,131 square metres and is located east of Allen Road and on the south side of Lawrence Avenue West (see Attachment 1: Location Map).

Existing Rental Housing

The buildings at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West currently contain a total of 8 rental dwelling units. Each detached house contains 1 rental unit, except for 611 Lawrence Avenue West which contains 2 rental units - a ground floor unit and a basement unit. Of the 8 existing rental units, 1 unit is vacant, 6 units are occupied by tenants, and 1 unit is occupied by an employee of the property owner. Utilities and parking are included in the rent for each tenant household.

The existing unit mix and rent classifications at the time of application are outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Existing Rental Dwelling Units and Rent Classifications

Unit Type	Affordable	Mid-range (affordable)	Mid-range (moderate)	Above Mid-range	Total
Two-bedroom	3	0	0	0	3
Three-bedroom	1	0	1	0	2
Four-bedroom	2	0	1	0	3
Total	6	0	2	0	8

THE APPLICATION

Description

The Rental Housing Demolition application proposes the demolition of 8 rental dwelling units within the existing buildings at 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West. A related Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment application proposes to permit the development of a 13-storey mixed-use building with a total gross floor area of 18,524 square metres, including 82 square metres of non-residential retail gross floor area. The proposed development will contain 266 residential units, including 8 replacement rental units.

Replacement Rental Units

The total gross floor area of the 8 replacement rental units is 1,095 square metres, which is 100% of the gross floor area of the existing rental units proposed to be demolished.

The proposed replacement rental units will have the same unit type and rent classifications as the existing rental dwelling units, except for 1 existing affordable two-bedroom unit that has a large gross floor area of 150 square metres and is proposed to be replaced as an affordable four-bedroom unit of a similar size.

The replacement unit mix and rent classifications are outlined in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Replacement Rental Dwelling Units and Rent Classifications

Unit Type	Affordable	Mid-range (affordable)	Mid-range (moderate)	Above Mid-range	Total
Two-bedroom	2	0	0	0	2
Three-bedroom	1	0	1	0	2
Four-bedroom	3	0	1	0	4
Total	6	0	2	0	8

Tenant Assistance Plan

A Tenant Assistance Plan that addresses tenants' right to return to a replacement unit and assistance to lessen hardship will be provided to all eligible tenants residing in the existing rental dwelling units. Tenant assistance is provided to tenants upon move out after they receive a formal eviction notice.

All tenants, regardless of when they moved in, will receive the following:

- at least six months' notice before having to vacate their existing dwelling unit;
- compensation equal to three months' rent, pursuant to the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA); and
- additional compensation for tenants with special needs, as determined by the Chief Planner.

Eligible tenants—those tenants who moved in prior to the Rental Housing Demolition application being submitted—will receive the following additional assistance:

- the right to return to a rental replacement unit of the same type, at similar rent;
- rent gap assistance to assist tenants in paying market rents for the period between when they move out and can return, estimated at 36 months;
- additional rent gap assistance if tenants cannot return as scheduled;
- move-out and move-back moving allowances; and
- services of a rental leasing agent to help tenants find and apply to suitable interim housing.

Reasons for Application

The proposal to redevelop the site involves the demolition of rental housing. Since the site contains six or more residential units, of which at least one unit is rental housing, an application is required under Chapter 667 of the City's Municipal Code, the Rental Housing Demolition and Conversion By-law. The By-law requires that an applicant obtain a permit from the City allowing the demolition of the existing rental housing units. The City may impose conditions that must be satisfied before a demolition permit is issued.

A Rental Housing Demolition application was submitted on October 29, 2025. Staff conducted a site visit on December 18, 2025, and a tenant meeting on May 21, 2026, details of which are summarized in the Public Engagement section of this report. The final replacement rental floor plans are illustrated in the plans submitted to City Planning dated May 26, 2026. Any revision to these plans shall be to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning.

The related Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment application (25 189462 NNY 08 OZ) was submitted on July 7, 2025.

POLICY AND REGULATION CONSIDERATIONS

Provincial Land-Use Policies

All decisions of Council in respect of the exercise of any authority that affects a planning matter shall be consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024), and shall conform to provincial plans.

Official Plan

The Official Plan outlines the City's policies and objectives for land use planning and development. Section 3.2.1 of the Official Plan contains the City's policies pertaining to the provision, maintenance and replacement of housing.

Policy 3.2.1.6 requires that new development that would result in the loss of six or more rental dwelling units replace at least the same number, size and type of rental units as exist on the site and maintain rents similar to those in effect at the time of application. The policy also requires the applicant to develop an acceptable tenant assistance plan, addressing the right to return to the replacement units at similar rents and other assistance to lessen hardship.

The City's [Rental Housing Demolition and Replacement Handbook](#) outlines how Policy 3.2.1.6 is typically implemented.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Tenant Meeting

An in-person meeting was held on May 21, 2026, to review the City's housing policies, the impact of the proposed demolition on existing tenants, and the proposed Tenant Assistance Plan. The meeting was attended by 3 tenant households, representatives of the applicant, and City Planning and Development Review staff.

Tenants asked questions and expressed concerns about:

- Access to vehicle parking, bicycle parking, and storage lockers in the new building;
- The process to find an interim apartment for the construction period and how to access the leasing agent;
- The move-out and move-back processes;
- What financial compensation would be provided under the City-approved Tenant Assistance Plan and how it would be administered to tenants; and
- Construction timelines and when tenants will be required to vacate their existing rental units.

COMMENTS

Provincial Planning Statement and Provincial Plans

Staff's review of this application has had regard for the relevant matters of provincial interest set out in the Planning Act. Staff have reviewed the current proposal for consistency with the PPS (2024). Staff find the proposal consistent with the PPS (2024).

Replacement Rental Housing

Staff are satisfied with the approach to replacing the rental dwelling units that are proposed to be demolished. Seven of the eight existing rental dwelling units will be replaced by their respective bedroom type and affordability classification. The eighth existing rental unit, a vacant affordable two-bedroom unit, will be replaced as an affordable four-bedroom unit. The proposed change in unit type from two-bedrooms to four-bedrooms will not impact any existing tenant households and supports the creation of affordable housing suitable for larger households and families.

The proposal would replace 100% of the existing rental gross floor area and all replacement rental units are exceeding the recommended unit sizes of the Growing Up Guidelines. Additionally, staff are satisfied that the replacement rental units are in a townhouse-form and ground-oriented.

The replacement rental units will be provided with ensuite laundry facilities and central air conditioning. Tenants of the replacement rental units will also have access to bicycle parking, visitor parking, and all indoor and outdoor amenities, on the same terms and conditions as any other resident of the building.

The applicant has agreed to provide at least 8 parking spaces for the tenants of the replacement rental units. Returning tenants who currently rent a vehicle parking space in the existing buildings will be offered a parking space at a similar monthly rate to what they are currently paying.

The replacement units will be maintained as rental housing for at least 20 years, beginning on the date the replacement rental units are first occupied, and tenants that occupy one of the replacement rental units during the initial 10-year period will have rents that will only increase by the annual provincial guideline until their tenancies end, irrespective of whether the Guideline applies to the proposed development under the RTA.

The replacement rental units and associated conditions address the replacement requirements of Official Plan policy 3.2.1.6 and are consistent with the City's implementation approach as outlined in the Rental Housing Demolition and Replacement Handbook.

Tenant Assistance Plan

The Tenant Assistance Plan is consistent with the City's current practices as outlined in the [Rental Housing Demolition and Replacement Handbook](#). The Tenant Assistance Plan will support tenants to access and afford suitable housing within the neighbourhood until the new building and replacement rental units are available for occupancy.

The rental replacement matters and tenant assistance plan will be secured through an agreement pursuant to Section 111 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, to the satisfaction of the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning.

CONTACT

Kate Macmillan, Planner, 416-396-7034, Kate.Macmillan@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Corwin Cambray, MCIP, RPP
Director, Strategic Initiatives, Policy and Analysis
City Planning

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Location Map - 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West

Attachment 1: Location Map - 605, 607, 609, 611, 613, 615 and 617 Lawrence Avenue West

