

June 29, 2026

Dear Members of the Toronto and East York Community Council,

Re: Support for Rental Housing Demolition Application No. 26 147735 STE 04 RH and related Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment Application No. 26 118047 STE 04 OZ - 1497, 1501 Queen Street West and 89, 91 Beaty Avenue

On behalf of Evangel Hall Mission (EHM), I am writing to express our strong support for the application by the Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre (PARC) to redevelop 1497–1501 Queen Street West and 89–91 Beaty Avenue. The proposal replaces 50 existing rental units with a 141-unit building that includes 54 replacement rental homes secured as deeply affordable housing, alongside tenant relocation and a right to return for current residents.

Why our organization supports this project

As a not-for-profit housing agency with two 100% RGI buildings and a drop-in centre serving people experiencing homelessness and/or poverty, we see firsthand the urgent and growing need for deeply affordable, stable and supportive housing in Toronto. The housing crisis is felt across the city where many residents face precarious housing, barriers to accessing appropriate support, and homelessness.

This project directly addresses these challenges by:

- Increasing the supply of deeply and supportive housing in an area well-served by transit and community services
- Protecting existing tenants through replacement housing, relocation assistance and right to return to the new development
- Providing integrated supports that improve long term housing stability
- Expanding community spaces in a high-need neighborhood
- Improving building design and operational functionality, and indoor and outdoor amenities for tenants



From our experience supporting individuals facing poverty, homelessness, addiction, and mental health challenges, we know that access to stable, affordable housing can significantly reduce the use of emergency services and lower healthcare costs by supporting recovery and harm reduction. By providing stability, affordable housing enables individuals to better engage with healthcare services while also benefiting from a supportive community. We have seen firsthand the positive impact of affordable housing on those who access it, as well as on the broader Toronto community. It helps challenge stigma by highlighting the diversity of people who need affordable housing—many of whom are able to live independently when they have the stability of a home and strong social connections.

Toronto is in the midst of a housing affordability crisis, and projects like this one that deliver deeply affordable and supportive housing at scale are urgently needed.

We urge you to support the application and to recommend its approval to City Council within the current Council term.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Ainsley Chapman, MA, CAE, CFRE

Executive Director, Evangel Hall Mission

416-504-3563

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.