

**Meeting Notes for
7-9 Wardlaw Crescent Community Liaison Committee
Tuesday, July 22, 2025 6:30 – 8:00 PM**

The purpose of the Community Liaison Committee is to facilitate dialogue between community organizations, individual community members, the City of Toronto Housing Secretariat and the housing operators, in accordance with the mandate outlined in the CLC Terms of Reference. This CLC is also designed to facilitate dialogue with the City of Toronto Shelter & Support Services Division and the Salvation Army, operators of the Islington Seniors' Shelter at 2671 Islington Avenue.

Present:

Councillor's office –Amanda Da Costa – Executive Assistant;
City of Toronto - Matt Hilder – Housing Secretariat, Lamia Aganagic – Housing Secretariat,
Arshad Valiyaveetil – Corporate Real Estate Management; Tsering Palmo - Toronto Shelter and Support Services
YWS – Steve Doherty; Midaynta Community Services – Faduma Abdulle;
Delta Family Resource Centre – Adi Yemane, Kemi Jacobs
Salvation Army Islington Seniors' Centre – Natasha Frechette, Jannette Carino; Albion Islington Square BIA – Jaimeen Baxi
Thistletown Residents Association, John Anga;
Residents: Samrudha Jadhav, Richardo Carmen De Santis, Pablo Callea, Sujeeva Mahendran

REGRETS:

Councillor Vincent Crisanti
TPS 23 Division
23 Div CPLC - Richardo Harvey

Facilitator: Bruce Davis, Public Progress
Committee Secretary: Yasmin Yusuf, Public Progress

6:30 PM Welcome and Introductions

- Land acknowledgement
- Discussion about the membership of the AGNECA team; the facilitator indicated that a decision had been made that the membership of AGNECA participants would be temporarily paused as AGNECA has made a legal application challenging the zoning for the Wardlaw project.
- Agenda was circulated in advance and approved by the committee members

6:40 PM Review of Notes from Previous Meeting

- Meeting notes have been reviewed, and there were no changes, the notes will be posted on the website for the City of Toronto.

6:45 PM Council Mandated Items:

Key additional components set out by City Council that have been mandated to address were:

- o Feedback on the building design, site plan and landscaping – discussed at the first meeting
- o Community safety assessment: focus of tonight's meeting
- o Traffic and transportation impacts to be addressed during the meeting today

6:50 PM Construction Update

- Overview of construction schedule starting in Summer 2025 with occupancy anticipated by November 2026
- Notice for the neighbourhood will go out shortly regarding the construction update
- In addition, people can find information on the City website

7:00 PM Community Safety Assessment Plan

- Kelly Prebble, a crime prevention consultant and retired police officer, was introduced to the committee; she will lead a community safety assessment using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED/SEPTED) principles.
- The assessment will include both physical/environmental factors (lighting, landscaping, access control) and social factors (community cohesion, integration, and support).
- A community safety walk is planned for September (timing to be confirmed), with both daytime and nighttime observations to assess lighting and safety concerns.
- Kelly will conduct interviews and focus groups with residents, businesses, and agencies to gather concerns and suggestions before the walk.
- Asset mapping will be used to identify local resources (e.g., parks, churches, transit) that can support safety and integration.
- Recommendations will be developed based on observations, community input, and data (including crime heat maps from the BIA).
- Maintenance and upkeep of the new building and surrounding area will be emphasized as key to ongoing safety.
- The committee discussed the importance of addressing both existing neighbourhood safety issues and concerns related to the new supportive housing.
- The process aims to produce actionable, realistic recommendations by late fall, with a draft report to be shared with the committee.

7:30 PM Transportation Staff Update and Questions

- Matt Hilder from the Housing Secretariat presented information on behalf of the Transportation services Department.

- The City is conducting a Thistlethorn Neighbourhood Streets Plan to address road safety, speeding, vehicle volumes, active transportation (sidewalks, bike lanes), and parking, with a focus on both current issues and those related to the new supportive housing.
- Feedback from residents and businesses about dangerous intersections, congestion, and pedestrian/cyclist safety has been shared with Transportation Services to ensure local concerns are addressed in the plan.
- The construction team is required to implement a traffic management plan, including a spotter/flag person for truck access, and staff/visitor parking will be off-site to minimize neighborhood disruption.
- Residents stressed the need for urgent action on traffic safety and congestion, especially at key intersections, rather than waiting for long-term city planning timelines. The Committee agreed to add a special CLC meeting in August to deal with urgent traffic issues.

7:48 PM Facilitator Wrap-up

- The committee agreed to hold the next CLC meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 6:30 pm online to address the most pressing transportation and traffic issues.

8:03 PM Meeting adjourned.

A summary of this meeting has been prepared by the facilitator team and will be posted on the City's website, toronto.ca/7-9Wardlaw, once CLC members have reviewed it.