



Deputation – Waled Khogali Ali
Item 11C – City Council Directions Requiring Board Attention
TCHC BOARD Public Meeting – December 12, 2024

December 10th 2024.

Toronto Community Housing Board of Directors
Toronto Community Housing Corporation
931 Yonge Street
Toronto, ON M4W 2H2
deputations@torontohousing.ca

Subject: Support for Enhanced Accessibility Modification Program

Dear Members of the Toronto Community Housing Board of Directors,

I am writing to express support for the evaluation and potential implementation of an **enhanced accessibility modification program** as outlined in **Item 11C: City Council Directions Requiring Board Attention**, specifically related to the directives under **PH15.6 - Increasing the City's Supply of Accessible Affordable Housing**.

Accessibility within the City's social housing portfolio is a critical need, and the feasibility study proposed by City Council represents an essential step toward addressing barriers faced by many tenants. We urge the Board to prioritize this initiative and ensure robust consultation with key stakeholders, including:

- **Responsible Personal Accessibility in Toronto Housing Committee (R-PATH)**
- **Regent Park Neighbourhood Association – Accessibility Committee**
- **Federation of South Toronto Residents' Associations (FoSTRA)**
- **Federation of North Toronto Residents' Associations (FoNTRA)**

Key Recommendations

1. Evaluate Feasibility and Financial Impacts

The directive to incorporate enhanced accessibility modifications into the turnover renovation program offers a strategic opportunity to gradually increase the number of accessible units across the TCHC portfolio. As part of this evaluation, we encourage the Board to consider:

- Leveraging existing partnerships with accessibility advocates and organizations.
- Identifying cost-effective solutions and technologies to enhance accessibility features.
- Ensuring that renovations align with current best practices and universal design standards.

2. Engage a Broad Range of Stakeholders

In addition to consulting with **R-PATH**, we strongly recommend involving local residents' associations such as the Regent Park Neighbourhood Association, FoSTRA, and FoNTRA. These organizations represent diverse community perspectives and can provide valuable

insights into tenant needs and priorities. Such an inclusive approach will help ensure that the proposed program reflects the realities of the communities it aims to serve.

3. Incorporate Findings into Budget Processes

The financial implications of this initiative should be integrated into future budget cycles to secure the necessary resources for implementation. Transparency in the reporting process will help ensure accountability and alignment with City Council’s broader objectives for social housing.

Conclusion

Enhancing the accessibility of TCHC’s housing stock is a vital step toward creating inclusive communities that meet the diverse needs of Toronto residents. By advancing this initiative, the Board will be addressing a pressing need while fulfilling the City’s commitment to equity and accessibility.

Thank you for your leadership on this matter. We look forward to hearing about the progress of this evaluation and are hopeful for positive outcomes that will support tenants in accessing safe and inclusive housing.

Sincerely,
Walied Khogali Ali
Regent Park Neighbourhood Association

CC:

- Federation of South Toronto Residents’ Associations (FoSTRA)
- Federation of North Toronto Residents’ Associations (FoNTRA)
- Responsible Personal Accessibility in Toronto Housing Committee (R-PATH)

Sincerely,



Sincerely,
Walied Khogali Ali
Neighbourhood Pods TO
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Attachment: Deputation Letter to Mayor Olivia Chow and Planning and Housing Committee – April 5, 2024

The Neighbourhood Pods TO (NPTO) embodies a consortium of grassroots organizations, community workers, and advocates, all rallying under a unified mission to bolster the economic livelihoods and enhance the overall well-being of low-income individuals and communities across Toronto.