

Mayor's Task Force on Housing

Mandate

The Mayor's Task Force on Housing will provide evidence-informed and action-oriented observations and recommendations to Kingston City Council in order to increase and ensure the sustainability of the supply of a diverse range of housing for all residents in the City of Kingston.

It will present a coordinated and practical set of recommendations designed to guide Council as it makes decisions to address Kingston's housing supply. It will rely on:

- a) Local experience and knowledge obtained through a community-wide collaborative process with key partners,
- b) Relevant policies and studies such as the Population, Housing & Employment Projections Study and the Official Plan,
- c) An analysis of the economics of building both market rate and affordable housing in Kingston, commissioned by the Task Force and conducted by a third party expert.
- d) The application of best practices and principles from other cities.

Scope

The work of the Task Force will be to:

- a) Establish a good understanding of the current state of housing in the City of Kingston (housing needs assessment and environmental scan, current and projected housing development, roles and responsibilities of the municipality, developers, not for profits, community agencies and residents)
- b) Examine and determine the barriers to the development of housing in Kingston. This analysis should identify hindrances leading up to approval from City Council, as well as hindrances to construction following City Council approval.
- c) Examine tools and incentives available to the City to stimulate investment in housing from inside and outside our community, enabling developers, not-for-profits and community agencies to build more housing at a faster pace in general and more affordable housing in particular
- d) Focus on recommendations that are applicable across the community, rather than on those specific to intensification in the downtown or other neighbourhood specific elements.

- e) Establish recommendations to increase the supply of a diverse range of housing and complement the City's ten year Housing and Homelessness Plan.
- f) Establish a process to engage and consult the public. The Task Force will consult with business, labour and community groups. The Task Force will also seek input from a broad cross section of the community with a variety of lived experiences seeking housing in Kingston, such as seniors, students, military personnel, vulnerable populations, immigrants, and young professionals and families.
- g) Present a final report to Kingston City Council no later than the end of 2019.

Membership

The Task Force will be comprised of the following individuals, representing a variety of different sectors and viewpoints across the community:

Ted Hsu – Co-Chair

Councillor Mary Rita Holland – Co-Chair

Gennaro DiSanto

Councillor Bridget Doherty

Donna Janiac

Kieran Moore

Francine Moore

Beth Pater

Robert Rittwage

Martin Skolnick

The first meeting of the Task Force will be at the call of one of the co-chairs, with subsequent meetings organized and scheduled to ensure the highest possible attendance of all members of the Task Force.

Staff Support

The Task Force will also be supported by Ruth Noordegraaf, the City's Manager of Housing and Childcare, as a non-voting member and a liaison to the current update of the City's Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan. Administrative support to the Task Force will be provided by the City Clerk's Office.

Appointment and Term

Members will be appointed to the Task Force until the end of 2019 or until the final presentation of its recommendations to City Council, at which time the Task Force will be dissolved.

Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest

All members of the Task Force are expected to abide by the conflict of interest provisions as established by the Corporation of the City of Kingston, and by the code of conduct provisions established for City Committees.

Budget

The Task Force is allocated up to \$90 000 from the Working Fund Reserve, in order to facilitate meetings, public consultations and the third party analysis of the economics of housing.