

# City of Toronto seeks public input for 10-year housing plan

BY NEWS STAFF

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Condominiums and the CN Tower are shown along the Toronto skyline on April 25, 2017. THE CANADIAN PRESS/Cole Burston

The City of Toronto wants to hear from residents as it lays out its housing plan for the next decade.

Mayor John Tory and deputy mayor Ana Bailao, who chairs the Planning and Housing Committee, launched the public consultation process for the HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan (<http://www.toronto.ca/housingplan>) on Friday.

“How do we move ourselves off the status quo in a significant way so that we can actually address the need, and actually have a dramatic ramping up in the supply of affordable housing in our city,” Tory said.

The City has also put together an external advisory board comprised of community members and organizations.

The feedback process includes public meetings in April and May, consultations from Toronto Community Housing tenants and the Indigenous community, community-led consultations for those groups that want to host their own sessions, and a housing forum on June 12-13.

Kris Boyce, the CEO of Greenwin Inc., who is on the advisory board, said she is hoping that by bringing everybody together, they can come up with some answers.

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“I think that if everybody focuses on assessing the needs of everybody involved, we could come up with a solution,” Boyce said.

She said from a developer’s point of view, the provincial and federal governments need to loosen up some of the rules to make it easier for people to get housing.

“There are waiting lists for affordable housing. They need to look at the development fees for new builds, so that affordable housing can be built by the private sector, and that we can have a good outcome and a win-win for both sides,” she explained.

*Below are the dates, times and locations for the public consultation sessions:*

- April 10, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Scarborough Council Chamber (150 Borough Dr.)
- April 18, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Etobicoke Council Chamber (399 The West Mall)
- April 30, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. – Metro Hall, rooms 308/309 (55 John St.)
- May 1, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. – North York Council Chamber (5100 Yonge St.)

*Below are the dates, times and locations for the TCH consultations:*

- May 7, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – 65 Greencrest Circuit
- May 14, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – 495 Wilson Ave.
- May 16, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. – 341 Bloor St. W.
- May 21, 1 to 3 p.m. – 341 Bloor St. W.

Details from the consultations will be presented to city council in the fall.

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