

CITY OF HAMILTON NOTICE OF MOTION

General Issues Committee: November 27, 2015

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS

Affordable Housing Units for Seniors as Part of the Riverdale Recreation Expansion Project

WHEREAS, there are currently over 5,000 names on the City of Hamilton's Housing Wait List;

WHEREAS, rising real estate costs in Hamilton present a significant barrier for social housing providers;

WHEREAS, the expansion of the Riverdale Recreation Centre is tentatively scheduled for 2017 and 2018 as part of the City's 10 year capital budget plan;

WHEREAS, the Riverdale Recreation Centre is operated on land owned by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board;

WHEREAS, City Housing Hamilton may be required to replace or add new units as part of its Asset Renewal Program;

WHEREAS, seniors now represent 30% of those on Ontario's social housing wait lists (up 8% from a decade ago and rising);

WHEREAS, the construction of new affordable housing units on publicly owned land saves substantial resources for affordable housing providers;

WHEREAS, the construction of affordable housing units above a recreation facility provides tremendous health benefits to those residing in such a building,

WHEREAS, the construction of new affordable housing units above a City of Hamilton recreation centre is a compact form of sustainable development;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That City of Hamilton Recreation and Facilities staff be directed to convene meetings with CityHousing Hamilton staff, Hamilton District School Board staff, School Board Chair & Ward 5 Trustee, Todd White, and Housing Services staff to discuss the possibility of constructing new affordable housing units for seniors, as part of the Riverdale Recreation Expansion project, and report to the General Issues Committee with a report detailing any opportunities that might exist for a multi-stakeholder development of this kind.