



CITIZEN COMMITTEE REPORT

To:	Emergency and Community Services Committee
From:	Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee <div style="text-align: right;">_____ Julia Verbitsky [name], Chair</div>
Date:	March 2 nd , 2021
Re:	Building fees

Recommendation

That the City ask the Province of Ontario to change legislation to allow municipalities to pay for relevant building fees associated with Affordable Housing through existing City funds.

(Power/ Mayer)

Background

The City of Hamilton needs more affordable housing. In order to help facilitate more building, it is important to dismantle financial barriers to development. The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee is recommending that the City of Hamilton proposes to the province an interesting way to reduce the costs of building new non-profit affordable housing projects.

The Province should allow cities to use some of the funds from our Building Permit Reserves to waive the building fees they normally have to pay.

Analysis/Rationale

The HHAC believe this a valuable tool for the City of Hamilton. This change will create an additional financial tool to help facilitate more affordable housing.

Creating more local control over the financial supports is a meaningful way to streamline approvals and financing for capital projects.

Efficiency and time improvements help make projects more affordable, delays in projects caused by lack of, or inefficient funding due to municipal building charges.