

From: Olivia O'Connor <hamilton@acorncanada.org>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2024 6:04 AM
To: clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Written communication for Nov 19 Planning Committee

Hello clerk,

Please accept written communication for November 19 planning committee from ACORN Hamilton.
Thank you.

November 18th 2024

ACORN Written Communication regarding 11.3 Report Back on Rental Housing Protection Tenant Assistance Guideline (PED22091(b)) (City Wide)

Ontario is in the midst of a worsening housing crisis. One of the key contributing factors is the rapid loss of affordable rental housing. Demovictions and conversions are displacing tenants from their affordable homes to give way to luxury rentals and condos. Once evicted, these tenants are displaced from their communities, thrown into a housing market where they are not able to afford the rent and face the threat of homelessness or are forced to cut back on spending for essential services just to be able to pay for their housing. Current regulations at the provincial level are extremely weak when it comes to tenant protections in case of demolition, and regulations on conversions do nothing to address the impact of losing affordable rentals. Therefore, it is critical for cities to use their powers to ensure that tenants' rights and homes are protected.

ACORN fully supports the staff recommendations being presented today for the City of Hamilton Tenant Relocation and Assistance Guideline under the Rental Housing Protection By-law.

ACORN members delegated in June 2024 to raise concerns about the calculation of top up rent payments. We are very pleased to see the effort made to improve the calculation to reflect the challenge tenants will face when finding a new apartment.

Thank you to city staff for listening to tenant voices and working to make a strong bylaw.

ACORN contact info
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ACORN Canada, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, founded in 2004, is an independent grassroots organization that fights for social and economic justice for low and moderate income communities. We believe that social and economic justice can best be achieved by building community power for change. ACORN started organizing in Hamilton in 2017 and has grown to have four neighbourhood chapters: Downtown, Mountain, East End and Stoney Creek.