



January 13, 2021

York Region Committee of the Whole  
The Regional Municipality of York  
17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario L3Y 6Z1

Mr. Chair Emmerson and Members of Committee of the Whole:

**Re: Item H.2.1 - Regional Official Plan Update - Housing Challenges and Opportunities  
9251 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Purpose Built Rental Housing Development Application**

We are writing to make this committee and Regional Council aware of an on-going application for a major purpose-built rental development in the City of Richmond Hill. This application comes at a critical time as it would provide over 900 rental units in the City of Richmond Hill and York Region in a single development adjacent to the recently opened Viva BRT station at Yonge Street and 16 Avenue.

Committee of the Whole has received Staff Report. H.2.1 - Regional Official Plan Update - Housing Challenges and Opportunities. This report clearly outlines many of the challenges currently being faced in York Region in terms of housing affordability and housing options. Specifically, we note the following:

- York Region is not achieving housing affordability targets and in recent years has fallen short of forecasted growth levels.
- The provision of affordable options has been identified as an important element of community health and well-being.

On December 9, 2020, City of Richmond Hill staff provided a supportive report and recommended approval of the purpose-built rental application. However, the application was referred back to staff for further consideration. We are concerned that this will further delay the implementation of this major rental housing development.

Given the Regional importance regarding the supply of rental housing, and the role that this development would have in helping to meet Regional housing objectives, we would appreciate if this committee and Regional Council express its support for this major rental housing development.

Do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Pereira', written in a cursive style.

Chris Pereira, MCIP, RPP  
Principal  
MBPD Limited

cc. Mr. Ori Belavin, Yonge Sixteen Inc.  
Mr. Jeffrey Streisfield, Landlaw