

## Catherine McKenney

I agree that the City must address the following in order to tackle our housing crisis: a strong inclusionary zoning policy, providing land at transit stations for affordable housing, including clear and affordable housing targets in the next Term-of Council Priorities, and a commitment of \$12 million per year in City funding to build new affordable housing.

Throughout my time as Councillor for Somerset Ward, I have continuously advocated for more affordable housing, especially in the core, where we must always strive to provide access to housing that meets the needs of everyone. I sincerely believe that once an individual has access to safe and affordable housing other aspects of their lives tend to fall in place naturally since they have the stability required to take care of themselves and their families.

I agree that 25% of new units located within Transit Oriented Development (TOD) areas must be affordable. I worked with the community to ensure that 25% of new units of the East Flats development (133 Booth Street, 301 and 324 Lett Street) will be affordable. I am determined to hold developers to this standard in the future. It is the City's responsibility to ensure access to affordable housing near transit stations for those who need it most.

In Somerset Ward, there are underdeveloped areas that have significant TOD potential; they include Lebreton Flats, Bayview Station, Preston-Carling and Gladstone Station areas. I will continue to work during the next term of Council to ensure that new residential developments offer significant affordable housing with direct access to transit.

My recent direction to City staff and adopted by Council (May 2018) to establish an inter-departmental working group responsible for identifying all city-owned lands in close proximity (600m) to current and future LRT and BRT stations will ensure that we are investigating all options for housing at or near our rapid transit. Providing land to build affordable housing is one of the most effective ways for our municipal government to contribute to the increase in the stock of affordable housing.

As a Board member for Ottawa Community Housing, I worked to have Rochester Heights community redeveloped, resulting in a significant increase in the number of affordable housing units in this neighbourhood. The OCH Board also approved the purchase of seven acres of land at Gladstone Station to develop a mixed-use, mixed-income community with access to the LRT station, a French public school, greenspace and many more amenities. These are the types of communities that we must continue to build to keep our neighbourhoods affordable and great places for everyone to live.

As the Councillor for Somerset ward and a local resident, I am keenly aware of the issues facing downtown families and individuals, including the need for more affordable housing. I will always look for ways that the City can respond to this need and will continue to work with my federal and provincial counterparts to ensure that we taking advantage of all opportunities to provide safe and affordable housing to those who need it most.

Again, thank you for being in touch with me on this critical matter.

Catherine McKenney

